

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 20:01:36 1994
From: rdkeys@csemail (R. D. Keys)
Subject: Re: 15mW QSO's

In reply to your query of the use of 4 milliwatts for DXing between
New Zealand and Australia during the early 1920's:

In that era, most qso's took place fairly close to 180-200 meters,
just at the top end of the current broadcast band.

A few brave souls got up to about the current 80 meter band. They
were pleasantly surprised at what they could do with such useless
``short waves''.

A very few brave souls tried 40 meters and were flabbergasted at their
success. After that (about 1926 or so) the rush was on to the higher
bands. Remember, in those days, it was difficult to get tubes to oscillate
at frequencies much higher than about 7-8 mhz. Special tricks were usually
required to get the designs to work properly.

About 1924 or 25 (don't remember the exact time right off), the generic
bands 160/80/40/20/10/5 meters were authorized.

During the great leaps forward in the early 1920's, it was very
common for one to put a type '01A tube on as a Hartley oscillator
coupled to an end fed Hertzian (Fuchs) antenna or a real Zepp antenna,
and work all over the place. The usual B+ supply was 22.5 or 45 volts,
and that would be at about 1-3 ma. Figuring about 25 percent coupling
efficiency for the legally required ``loose inductive coupling'', that
would be about:

$$22.5 \times 0.002 \times 0.25 = 11.25 \text{ milliwatts.}$$

At 1 ma that is about 5.6 milliwatts. The degree of coupling was somewhat
critical and most success was obtained at a coupling efficiency of about
10-33 percent. Tighter coupling than that meant very poor unstable signals.

There are a number of us in the Antique Wireless Association that have
put together such rigs over the past years with quite good success.
There is a fellow up north in the US (W2ZM, if my memory is not foggy)
that still runs quite a few such rigs, and I have had the fortune to
work him several times using these ancient QRP/Boatanchor rigs, lately.
His peanut whistle is a '01A, while his QRP rig is a '10. The QRO rig
is a '204A at 100 watts. Carefully tuned they all work just fine.
I have several based upon the more common type 6SN7 tube that work
well on 160 or 80 meters. It is quite easy to work several thousand
miles with them on a clear winter night when the band is relatively quiet.

I use 2-8 small 12 volt sealed lead acid batteries as the plate supply, and my antenna is just an end fed 100 foot wire up to a tree.

So you are correct, it is done, and was done, and is quite fun.

There were several interesting articles in the 1923-1927 QST's that covered working long distance QRP using a single receiving detector tube at low plate voltages.

In fact, you can wire the thing up so that the oscillator is the regenerative detector and make a complete simple station out of 1 tube that is quite effective for local rag chewing, and occasional DX. There were several good articles in ``Radio Broadcasting'' from about 1923 that covered such a rig.

During the early 1930's the Japanese did this quite effectively and used a single dual triode tube as the basis for a rather effective little 5 meter VHF infantry set that was used through the second world war. The design used a type 19 tube (Japanese copy of our 19 type, don't remember their exact number right off). The tube was switched by a little multi-pole knife switch between transmit and receive functions. There was even a built-in telegraph key for CW if desired. The whole thing was 3x5x7 inches in size, in a ruggedized flip-lid metal case. The design was almost an exact copy of such a rig from about 1930 that was quite popular as a mobile/portable ham station and covered in QST. (There were many such mobile/portable designs in the 1928-34 QST's.)

Good Luck.....

Bob

p.s. Over the past 10 years I have built some 20 of these little peanut whistles, and they all work just fine, especially on 80 meters in the dead of winter. Find a spare 6SN7 or 12AT7 tube and put one together. If you need a schematic, I can try to post an electronic form of the one I use.

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*****
* 73 TU SU SK DE NA4G          ``Boat Anchor Bob'', an ol' CW fart. *
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* Morse has been in the family for over 100 years.                      *
* Morse radiotelegraphy (Spark/CW) has been in the family since 1914.  *
*****
* May you have fair winds and following seas on your watch at the key. *
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From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 19:25:53 1994
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: 15mW QSO's continued

Interesting discussion (thread) going guys.

Something to consider about the 1920-1940 era.
I'd think that QRM and strange signals and RFI
were nil. Mother nature with QRN was probably
the only setback during that period.

The other night I was on 40M around 7.040MHz
running 950mW (as usual) and was hearing a
strange signal up and down the band. Reminded
me of the beep on a Uniden 2510 or cellular
phone something like that. Didn't seem to
be centered on any frequency. It was everywhere.

The current record (and I have to look this up)
for the Fireball transmitter is 7,000,000,000 Miles/Watt
on 10M during the last solar peak. This was done
in the microWatt output regime.

dit dit
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 16:09:55 1994
From: "Kenan, Larry" <larryk@frick.sandiegoca.NCR.COM>
Subject: Re: 15mW QSO's continued

>Something to consider about the 1920-1940 era.
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>Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
>adams@sgi.com

Not really true in the early years. Everyone was using regenerative receivers which would radiate if the feedback was too great and there was no RF stage ahead of the detector to decouple it from the antenna. That generated a lot of QRM.

Also, I think that AC motors with commutators and sparking brushes were a lot more common than now.

Clinton B. DeSoto's book "200 Meters and Down" (sic?) indicates that early hams were not always the polite and courteous group that we know today. :-)

Reading the magazines of the period indicates that QRM was a serious problem - else why would the OM have invented the Wouff-Houng to deal with the "rotten QRM"?

Larry Kenan - KD6CKR

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 19:42:56 1994

From: rdkeys@csemail (R. D. Keys)

Subject: Re: 15mW QSO's continued

>

>

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> else why would the OM have invented the Wouff-Houng to deal with the "rotten

> QRM"?

>
>
>
> Larry Kenan - KD6CKR
>

I will have to differ with the boys in some small details, for the sake of discussion:

The Ol' Man invented the Wouff-Hong to deal with the 'Rotten QRM' from the early days of ham spark (about 1915-1922). Regen sets were just barely beginning to take hold in that time. Xtal receivers in ham stations were still quite common, since it was a weeks wages for a '00 or a '01 or the A versions. Genuine audions were relatively common, still, and a few 'French' detector tubes were available left over from the Great War. A few VT-1's were to be found in surplus, as well as an occasional telephone repeater bulb. RCA was just getting started in the VT business.

The earliest ham regen sets (mainly a detector or maybe a detector and one step of audio) were a bit touchy to run because they tended to use a tuned plate tuned grid circuit. About 1921, standard tickler circuits were beginning to be used with some regularity. In 1922, the classic Reinartz tuner was published in the lead article of the May or June QST. The great leap was on to 'low-loss' tuners of rather interesting and sophisticated design, some even being built on glass panels to keep circuit losses down. All of these refinements tended to make the regenerative detector a fine stable circuit.

Regen sets are quite solid receivers. They don't put out that much QRM, although they can be heard a few blocks away without much problem, after a mile or two, the signal is very hard to hear. Modern receivers can hear the regen detectors at about 25 miles if conditions are perfect (from my own experiences with local hams). When oscillating, the detector is most sensitive JUST at the oscillation point, and also the least strong a radiator at that same point. If an RF amp is used ahead of the detector, there is essentially nil radiation, even from breadboard sets.

The main source of QRM in that era was too many spark sets in those useless short waves of 200 meters and down (1.5mhz and up in frequency). Any of the tube transmitters of the era put out respectable signals, although the AC driven ones (self-rectifying Colpitts circuits and the like) were designed to emulate a spark signal, so had a rather wide modulated wave depending upon what the AC line frequency was --- 50/60/500hz x 2 for a full wave rectification circuit would net 100/120/1000hz modulation). The plain CW transmitters, on the other hand, put out a 100hz wide signal, of modern bandwidth, but could pick up hum modulation from the poorly rectified AC power supply circuits of that era (1 ufd was a big filter).

They yoooped and chirped a lot, but the signals had relatively sharp waves on the CW rigs. Hence, you could run a number of them in the space of one spark signal.

Modern reconstructions of 1920's vintage transmitters are quite stable, and put out signals that most modern hams can't tell from a rice box, other than the slightly strange clear sound of the rig that is 'different from my knwd TS440' to them. That was not always the case with some homebrewed breadboard of the 20's, but, many were rather fine T9X rigs. I would be happy to demonstrate on 80m sometime, if anyone just has to take me to task. If any of you should work W2ZM on 80 CW, he most likely will be running a 1920's oscillator transmitter. His rigs are quite good.

The regen receivers tended to be a bit broad, although a well built one can have a detector that will cut the sidebands off any SSB signal, and make CW signals so sharp that it is actually better than many mechanical or xtal filter modern rigs. AM signals can be sliced down in bandwidth until they are a muffled rumble. The problem is that most hams never learned how to run them properly. Hence, they tended to be critical in tuning and adjustment. Properly set up and run, a regenerative receiver will run rings around ANY modern DC receiver, I don't care who designed it. The only thing a DC receiver has going for it is the freedom from overload that the regen detector can easily suffer. Also, for the folks that have not studied their radio history, when were the first direct conversion receivers made? (answer at end of message).

The maritime services still run a few regenerative receivers that were made as late as the 1970's in reserve receivers. The Navy still took great stock in regenerative receivers as late as the RAL/RAK series of WWII. These receivers are as fine on CW as any modern contrivance that can be called a receiver. Many modern receivers of the 50's and 60's era can't begin to hold a candle to the RAL/RAK or commercial regen designs of the maritime services. You just have to hear it to believe it, tho..... I will be happy to demonstrate that statement to anyone that wants to come by and sit with me on a late night 80 meter run with a regen receiver. You will never be satisfied with a plain little DC receiver, again.....

After the demise of the spark sets in 1924 (did you know spark was perfectly legal in the commercial channels until 1940???), the QRM was not a great problem, any more so than today. Actually, it is a lot worse today on 40 meters than it was when I was a novice, but that is another story.

End of discussion, for the sake of discussion.....

73 Bob
NA4G

p.s. answer: Direct conversion receivers were designed about 1907 in

the laboratory and were in common use in the military and commercial circles by the first world war. The original ones used a crystal detector coupled to a Poulsen arc local oscillator. Later ones used an audion generator of local oscillations, coupled to a crystal detector. Still later ones used a pair of vacuum tubes (audions). They were replaced by the more generally sensitive regenerative circuit (designed by DeForest/Armstrong) which the hams favored after the advent of commonly available audions, about 1915. Sooooo, DC receivers are ancient technology.

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* Morse has been in the family for over 100 years.                      *
* Morse radiotelegraphy (Spark/CW) has been in the family since 1914.  *
*****
* May you have fair winds and following seas on your watch at the key. *
*****
```

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 20:39:10 1994
From: WaltN@aol.com
Subject: 2BP1 CRT needed

Looking for a nice 2BP1 CRT for my WWVC rcvr. NOS preferred, but pull OK if it's bright with no visible burn-in. Email price and particulars, please.

Thanks,
Walt

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 14:49:04 1994
From: janderson@polycom.com
Subject: 390A Ballast Tubes

This weekend at the Livermore Swap-meet I picked up a couple of new ballast tubes that were claimed to be for the R390A. When I got home, I checked and found that the tube number is not the same as the ones sold by Fair Radio. Instead, the tube info is:

Manuf: Amperite

Number: TJ311M01

Is this tube a cross for a 3TF7, or am I hosed?

Thanks,

- Jeff, WA6AHL

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 15:35:04 1994
From: dennis@irissun2.fp.trw.com (Dennis Gibbs)
Subject: Re: 390A Ballast Tubes

Jeff,

Relax. 3TF7 and TJ311M01 are the exact same thing. In fact, one of the NIB spares I have is marked with BOTH numbers on them. In addition, an R390A manual I have mentions both numbers.

I believe that 3TF7 is Amperite's nomenclature for the tube, and TJ311M01 is a military number.

But you were given the correct information. They are the very same ballast tube.

Dennis Gibbs
dennis@irissun2.fp.trw.com

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 12:12:01 1994
From: "Roy Morgan" <morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: 5 KW Trans. for sale

FORWARDED MSG: REPLY TO ORIGINAL POSTER!

I have a military 5kw amp in a 6' cabinet.
the power supply is incomplete and apart, as the original owner was in the process of converting it from 220 3phase.
The rf deck is a 4cx300 driving a 4cx3000, in good shape with huge vacuum variables and dual bird watt meter.
The tank circuit apparently consisted of large plug in coils, depending on the band in use.
I have a very large (suitable), amateur tapped, tank coil that goes with the unit.
Also have an electric company "pole pig" that was going to be used in the power supply.
Have most of the service manual copied.

Anyone interested?

Dont know how much its worth, but the parts alone are worth more than I'd be willing to take.

As long as I dont get the typical "Ill give ya a couple of hundred bucks fer it", Im looking to sell it.

Later, Sean

wx81@vtc.tacom.army.mil
home (810)573-9277 5-10pm EDT
work (810)466-6818 8:30-4:30 EDT

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From ab4e1.com Thu Aug 4 18:20:53 1994
From: Anderson_Neal@lanmail.ncsc.navy.mil
Subject: address

To: Laura from Canada - please respond - I need to ask you a *Canadian* question.

Sorry to send to the list, but I don't have Laura's address.

Neal N4UYR

From ab4e1.com Thu Aug 4 22:23:28 1994
From: Scott Turner <scott@hpislst.lvld.hp.com>
Subject: And speaking of Sweep Tubes...

Since we're talking about sweep tubes anyway.

Last night someone gave me a pair of NOS RCA 6JF6's. I'm wondering if anyone has any experience using these as a replacement for 6JB6's in Drake 4-line transmitters (specifically my original T4X).

MY 1970 RCA Receiving Tube Manual seems to indicate that the major difference is higher inter-electrode capacitance in the 6JF6. Might be a bit hard to neutralize, but otherwise???

--

Regards,

Scott Turner

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 00:30:46 1994
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: ART-13 Conversion

to: boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu

Hello George.

Re. ART-13 tips; it happens that right now I'm up to my buns getting one on the air! Some of the things I've done are a bit unusual, but hopefully I can help you get your rig up and running.

First, I have several vintage conversion articles here, as well as a copy of the USAF technical manual, and the stuff from "Electric Radio" (that's what got me started on this quest). If you'll send me a mailing address and agree to pay for postage, I'll gladly xerox the vintage articles and ER stuff. Copying the manual might be a bit of a stretch, but if it becomes necessary we'll see what can be done.

Basically, your power supply will have to produce 28 volts @ 12 - 15 amps (relays, autotune motor, and filaments), or 6 - 8 amps if you power the filaments with AC. The low B+ supply is in the neighborhood of 400 - 450 VDC @ about 250 MA. High B+ is somewhat open to interpretation, and depends on how much nerve you've got. It can range from 750 VDC (this is the voltage Collins designed for at altitudes over 25,000 feet), to 1150 VDC (this is what Collins used BELOW 25,000 feet), to 1500 - 1750 VDC (what most hams run the rig at), @ approx. 300 - 350 MADC.

My particular power supply also includes a low current negative supply for a rig modification to grid block key the 813 PA; at this point I'm not sure what the actual blocking voltage required will be, so this is a -600 VDC supply with a slider resistor.

Building my supply from whatever junk I can find, the beast weighs in at close to 100 pounds (all of the transformers are higher current than necessary, and I'm using a LOT more swinging and filter chokes than are really needed).

Connectors are a bit of a problem. They CAN be had, but they're expensive. A power connector cost me \$22.50 plus mailing cost. From the same source I bought a mounting rack (\$50.00), and a long wave oscillator plug-in (\$40.00). I got the stuff from a firm that sells parts for restoring vintage aircraft, which explains the high prices.

I understand that there's a guy in Houston who is building new connectors by hand, but I don't have his name or address handy at the moment.

BTW, if you need parts I have two basket case rigs here; my rig was assembled from three basket cases.

I'm hoping to have my ART-13 up and running by the time the 160 metre noise level goes down for the winter. If there's any help I can offer you, feel free to ask. I'd like to work you with our ART-13s on 40 metre CW some evening this winter!

73's,

Tom, K9TA

tom.a.adams@mail.admin.wisc.edu

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 12:25:47 1994

From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL

Subject: ART-13 to Greece

>PMD G.SIFAKIS <pmdsif@isofit.intranet.gr> wrote:

>

>>I just beat you to it! Only yesterday I paid \$600+ for a ART-13. \$200 was

>>Fair's price and \$400+ shipping, customs, etc, etc.

>

>George didn't mention that the shipping was to GREECE!

>

George, I don't see why you had to spend all of this extra money to get your radio to Greece. It is a common practice for people visiting the USA to take advantage of the tremendous selection and cutthroat price competition for cameras, electronics, etc. The stores here are full of travelers, purchasing items on behalf of their friends, families, and business associates back home, just before they head out to the airport at the end of their trip! They usually just stuff the items into their shoes, shirts, etc. in their suitcases, to avoid customs back home.

Surely, you could have found someone who was going to visit the USA, who would have been willing to help you out!

Or perhaps, someone from the US, maybe this net, would have been willing to come out and visit you. I can see the scene now at Athens airport:

Kalman : "Nothing to declare!"

Customs officer : "Please step over here, Sir!"

Kalman : "What's the problem, officer?"

Officer : "What is in your baggage?"

K : "Just clothing. I'm going to visit my Uncle George! He said he knows

some swell places we can go see while I'm here!".

O : "Those three U.S. military transit cases contain clothing! You lie! Open them immediately or we keel you!"

A platoon of soldiers armed with automatic weapons surrounds the customs station.

K : "Oh, you mean THOSE bags! Why didn't you say so before? SURE I'll open them." (Fumble, Fumble, Fumble for luggage key)

K : "There, see! It's just a radio!"

O : "Geev me customs papers!"

K : "Oh, I don't need them. This radio is for my personal use while I'm in the country. Uncle George, Aunt Bee and I are going to listen to Rush Limbaugh together, live from atop the EIB Building back in New York!!"

(At the mere mention of Rush Limbaugh's name, the customs officer pales, realizing that he is dealing with someone with protekzia, and begins to look for a way out of his embarrassing predicament.)

O (nervously, now almost pleading, glancing nervously at the security police commander, Major Ouzo, who is now eyeing HIM evilly, instead of the traveler) : "B-b-but Sir, this radio is an ART-13! This is a TRANSMITTER, not a receiver! How do you expect to receive The Great Fat One of EIB on this unit?"

K : "Shouldn't be a problem. The nice man at Radio Shlock said that all of their radios come cable-ready, right out of the box! And he said if I ever have ANY problems, the optional TSP I bought will cover it!"

O : "Boy, those fellows at Radio Shlock sure have answers!!".

73 de WD6CZI

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 10:01:42 1994

From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmdsif@isoft.intranet.gr>

Subject: Re: ART-13 to Greece

George, I don't see why you had to spend all of this extra money to get your radio to Greece. It is a common practice for people visiting the USA to take advantage of the tremendous selection and cutthroat price competition for cameras, electronics, etc. The stores here are full

As you pointed out very descriptively, it is hard to sneak an ART-13 through customs. Also, it is hard to ask someone coming from the States to bring an 85lb monster that will stop them in every airport check. The truth is I didn't expect it to cost that much, but what the heck, I really wanted it

and it's only money. The cost breakdown for those interested was \$170 shipping, \$135 import charge, \$67 getting it through customs charge and about \$40 misc. bureaucratic and hidden tax. My real concern was whether it would make it through customs at all. Transmitters here are still sacred just like they were 50 years ago when it was real power to be able to communicate and the government had to know about it. Hams still register (in theory) their transmitters by model and S/N. To get a ham licence, you have to declare a transmitter which must also be approved by the appropriate government agency. Very few are approved, just because someone asked and paid the approval fee and certainly ART-13 is not among them. So imagine the ART-13 making it all the way to the customs and getting stuck there. Hiring experienced people however got it through and that's what that "getting it through customs fee" above covers.

I hope I didn't bore you with all the details, but things are slow here (August is a completely dead month in Europe as you probably know) and hopefully you're not too busy out there either. So, any good advice on restoring an ART-13? The radio is generally in pretty good condition, except that all the knob labels are pretty much gone. Connectors will be a problem too, I imagine. I should also mention here that Fair Radio once more provided dependable service.

In the not too distant future I should be on the air with that ART-13 talking to you.

73

George SV0KA

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 01:46:09 1994
From: "Kenan, Larry" <larryk@frick.sandiegoca.NCR.COM>
Subject: Astatic D104 microphones

Five of the last six Electric Radio covers have featured a boatanchor station which includes an Astatic D104 microphone among the equipment shown. The sixth cover picture (most recent issue) looks like it is a CW only station.

So naturally I had to have one. I bought a D104 at the TRW Swap Meet in Los Angeles last Saturday for \$25, which I thought was a pretty good price. The asking price generally seems to be \$40-\$45. This one is in very good shape and seems to work well.

I was wondering though, what makes this the predominant microphone? I know that the D104 was manufactured from the mid 1930s on and probably there are lots and lots still in existence. Is there a technical reason for their popularity? Does

the built in preamp, which was added after transistors were invented, have any particular advantage? Or is it just that the styling is so good?

Larry Kenan - KD6CKR

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 18:07:43 1994
From: Anderson_Neal@lanmail.ncsc.navy.mil
Subject: Astatic D104 microphones

Good question. My impression is that it *sounds* better than most. I bought a used one recently, then found out it doesn't have the preamp. Haven't used it yet, so can't say what difference the preamp makes.
Neal N4UYR

----- Replied Message Body -----

Date: 8-04-94 3:07pm pst
>From: {larryk@frick.sandiegoca.NCR.COM}:ddn:navy

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**

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Larry Kenan - KD6CKR

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 16:12:10 1994
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: Re: Astatic D104 microphones

It has been my experience that the Astatic D104 is one of the best sounding high-impedence microphones on the air. I use one on my 32V-2, BC-610-I w/ BC-614-I speech amp, Drake C-line, and Hallicrafters SR-400A. I have tried the Shure 444 and 444D and currently use a 444D on my Yaesu FT-990 but find that the high frequency response of the D104 helps give a crispness to the audio that I transmit that the 444's just don't have. I use the 444D on the Yaesu because the amplified D104 is too sharp sounding and with the adjustable RF frequency shift that the Yaesu has for the speech processor I can tailor the transmitted audio for its quality.

Using my 32V-2 and the SR400A, I have made several on the air checks comparing the D104 to the Shure 444, Shure 440SL, Electro-Voice 638, Turner +3, and Astatic 10DA and the clarity of the D104 (non-amplified), its tonal balance, and its overall

quality won over all others.

The amplified stand is OK, I use them also, I just adjust the gain till the output matches the transmitters needs...I just have been unable to use the amplified D104 with the FT990, the speech quality degrades and I get reports and recordings that have that "ultra-contester" compressed to the max sound that I try to avoid. The 444d makes up for the audio deficiencies in the Yaesu MD-1, and has a bit "mellower" sound than the Heil HC-5, which also sounds better than the MD-1. For DX'ing, though, I use the HC-5 and have found I don't need the HC-4. I also use a Heil HC-3 on my FT-736 for satellite work and local FM stuff and always get comments on the cleanliness and clarity of my signal...I may try and see if the D104 will work on this rig! A microphone designed 60 or 70 years ago in use on the sats...I love it!

I guess the bottom line is that the mike works very well and that is the reason for its success and longevity. That and it looks neat!

ki5sl@sat.ampr.org
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 18:37:01 1994
From: "Tom Alverson" <TOMA@s1.xetron.com>
Subject: Re: Astatic D104 microphones

> I was wondering though, what makes this the predominant microphone? I know that
> the D104 was manufactured from the mid 1930s on and probably there are lots and
> lots still in existence. Is there a technical reason for their popularity? Does
> the built in preamp, which was added after transistors were invented, have any
> particular advantage? Or is it just that the styling is so good?

I would disconnect the preamp -- the D104 has plenty of output without it. You may also want to try adding a series resistor on the hot lead to tailor the response -- I think I have a couple hundred K resistor in series with mine. The best value probably depends on the input impedance of the rig you are using.

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 20:08:39 1994
From: Hugh D. Stegman <driver8@red-eft.la.ca.us>
Subject: Re: Astatic D104 microphones

>D-104:

Here's my humble knowlege about these neat looking and really generally cool and rad bitchen tough mikes. I have two. One is from before the preamp. It has way more output, and a different impedance to match tube rigs. It is still my station mike. I don't run a processor or anything, and I tend to have pretty decent audio, IMHO.

The other one was bought at a swap meet as a parts source. It would be better for riceboxes, and in fact the CB guys really love 'em, which is fine with me because around here anyway these folks are getting pretty good technically. However, I never thought it was as good a mike.

I really like the D-104. After the RCA ribbons, which you probably would not want to use with ham radios :-), they just look like *real* microphones.

Oh, and you can't break the thing. Try it. You'll give up before it does. Seriously. It's not as good a hammer, ergonomically, as an RE15, but it's cheaper.

Hugh NV6H

"No. Do not pound nails with RCA ribbon mikes."

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 21:50:43 1994

From: al511@freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU (Robert Neece)

Subject: Re: Astatic D104 microphones

Regarding the Astatic D-104 microphone, Larry, KD6CKR, asks:

>Is there a technical reason for their popularity? Does
>the built in preamp, which was added after transistors were invented, have
>any particular advantage? Or is it just that the styling is so good?

Rick, KI5SL, provides an excellent commentary in response to Larry's inquiry.

Like Rick, I have done a large number of on-the-air comparisons of microphones. And, like Rick, I have found the D-104 to come out on top each time.

[Warning--- non-BA paragraph follows:

I even use an unamplified D-104 with my FT-990. But I do cut back on the speech processor. Rick notes correctly that the D-104 is a high-Z mic, whereas many modern rigs are designed for low-Z mics. As a result, some fellows use an impedance matching transformer between their D-104s and their

newer rigs. I have found, though, that a straight D-104 works fine with my rice box in spite of the impedance mismatch.

End of non-BA comments.]

By the way, the D-104 came in two versions: crystal and ceramic. The crystal is designated simply D-104; the ceramic is called the D-104-C. My personal preference is for the crystal version.

Why does the D-104 beat the competition? First, it is important to identify two classes of microphones: (1) ones that purport to feature high-fidelity audio, and (2) ones that purport to feature "communications" audio. Class (1) mics endeavor, with varying degrees of success, to convert sound into a faithful electrical analog of the sound. Class (2) mics do not attempt to be faithful to the original waveform. Instead, they deliberately adjust the waveform to provide an electrical signal that will offer enhanced intelligibility in communications service.

What kind of "adjustment" is made? Most of the sound energy in a male human voice lies in the range of 300 to 3000 c.p.s. The conventional wisdom holds that a communications mic should emphasize these frequencies, and should attenuate frequencies outside this range. This cuts background noise and the like. Further, the wisdom is that the high end of the 300-3000 range should be emphasized at the expense of the low end.

The published response curves for the D-104 show, in fact, that the D-104 is rather peaky. It does very generally favor the top of the 300-3000 range, but is not a particularly smooth mic in terms of its curve. Ironically, though, the "unfaithful" curve of the D-104 works out in practice to be unusually effective in enhancing the intelligibility of the human voice in tough, over-the-air situations.

Most microphones fall into class (1). With proper tailoring of their output, they can be made to work well in communications service. The D-104 falls into class (2). It works splendidly in communications applications right out of the box. I recognize that particular rigs and individual voices may favor other mics. In general, though, the quirky response of the D-104 works out to beat the competition in an amazing number of voice-rig combinations in communications service.

--

73 de Bob, K0KR

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 21:56:01 1994

From: Hugh D. Stegman <driver8@red-eft.la.ca.us>
Subject: Re: Astatic D104 microphones

>I would disconnect the preamp.

Yes. This isn't a tough mod. There's a terminal strip inside the base with the full wiring diagram. Unless you need the preamp for impedance matching, level (on some of the riceboxes), or for a good-buddy raddidio, mostly it serves to plug the hole in the bottom of the base, in case you spill your coffee.

Hugh NV6H

"Now let me remember, it's red to yellow, green to white..."

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 22:15:57 1994
From: Joe Reda/HQ/3Com <Joe_Reda@3mail.3Com.COM>
Subject: Re: Astatic D104 microphones

Isn't it true you can get replacement elements for these microphones and that you can actually still buy them new? Does anyone have an address and/or phone for Astatic? The element in mine definitely needs replacing . . .

Thanks \\Joe KC6TXU

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 10:06:15 1994
From: dennis@irissun2.fp.trw.com (Dennis Gibbs)
Subject: August 7, 1994 Berryville, VA hamfest report

Greetings all,

Marc Melucas (fellow boatanchors list contributor) and I went to the 44th (!) annual Berryville, VA hamfest on Sunday August 7. In a word, it was GREAT!

The weather simply could not have been better. The turnout was the largest I have ever seen at Berryville. Now, first I will tell you what we picked up, then I will tell you what else we saw that we didn't buy.

I picked up a nice Collins R-391 for \$70!

Marc found and took home a Hallicrafters SX-28 (not 'A') complete with original manual, matching speaker, for \$75!

The Hallicrafters supposedly works well, although Marc has not tried it out yet. The R-391 had an unexpected feature that I did not discover until I got home.

When I was at the fest, Marc and I came upon the R-391. Since the bank account is a bit low these days, my first inclination was not to get the R-391, so we left without buying it. But as Marc and I walked through the fest, it kept gnawing at me, and I told Marc that perhaps I should just buy the thing. So we went back and casually walked up to it again. Unfortunately, there was a small crowd around it, and one guy seemed interested in it, but had not yet made an offer.

So I began to look at it more closely when Marc came up to me and quietly told me that the previous guy that was looking at it was talking to his friend about the R-391 on his HT, and that if I wanted it, I better hurry and do something about it. So I offered the guy \$50 (The asking price was \$70). He said he would not budge on his price, and since it was extremely reasonable, I gave him \$70 and took it home.

Anyway, more about this "unexpected feature". Because of the level of interest and the crowd around this radio when I went back to buy it, I did not remove the covers to peak inside. When we got home, Marc and I lugged it into my basement. I took the bottom cover off first. Everything inside was there, and it really looked good. Then I took the top cover off, and Uh Oh, apparently some mice had built a nest in there. There was no sign of the mice, but there was a fair amount of nesting material in there. To be on the safe side, Marc and I lugged the thing back outside and put it on the lawn, and I vacuumed out the remains of the nest.

The damage from the mice appears to be minimal. There is at least one wire that has been chewed completely through, and it's dirty in there, but should clean up nicely. Another possible problem is that there are two RF transformers that appear to be missing. But everything else is there, it is definitely restorable, and after cleaning the front panel should be near mint! This radio did not come with a power cord or a manual, so I'll be searching for those.

Now, for other items of interest at the fest: We saw an R-392 in EXCELLENT condition, in working order for only \$50! I should have bought it at that price, but I already have a really nice one so I passed it over. It was gone the

next time we went by.

We saw two R-388's for sale, one was \$240, the other \$260. Saw two R-390A's there, one for \$275 that supposedly worked well, and one for ~\$125 that did not work well, according to the owner.

Saw a fair amount of Heathkit stuff there, as well as some Drake equipment, and Hallicrafters.

Marc picked up a NIB Variac for \$25, and an Astatic D-104 microphone for \$35. Marc also found some unusual Collins filter also, but I'm not sure exactly what it is. Also, Marc got a nice B&W 6-position antenna switch, unused, for only \$20!

We also picked up a bunch of tubes, and assorted parts. Finally, I got a chance to try some of the famous Berryville barbecue. Incredible, excellent barbecue sandwich for only \$2!

Overall, an excellent hamfest. This was one of two hamfests that were happening in the general Washington, DC vicinity yesterday. The earlier reports of the second hamfest, in Upper Marlboro, MD, did not sound too good.

The next hamfest that I am aware of in this area is the annual Gaithersburg hamfest, which is the largest in this area. It happens September 11.

Dennis
dennis@irissun2.fp.trw.com

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 04:38:37 1994
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: Bad Deals

My worst boatanchor deal was a Galaxy V MKIII that I bought from a guy with a sob story about really needing money...wanted to get started in radio and this was his late uncle's station...he couldn't afford much, etc, etc, and I bought it for \$150.00. That was 3 years ago, the thing never worked, 3 buds of mine that used to work on the blasted things couldn't get it to work, it's going to another bud for him to use as parts for one he is totally rebuilding....he has offered me 20 bucks for the radio alone, I

think I'll take it and keep the power supply, remote VFO and station console for another Galaxy GT-550 that I have my eye on (it's supposed to work)....

Rick Blank, KI5SL
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 17:23:48 1994
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: BB-715/PRC-68

Any of you that collect mil surplus gear and have PRC-68s (which use BB-715 nicad batteries) might be interested in the charger for these batteries - the PP-7601.

Tartan Electronics (602 577 1022) has new units for \$ 75.

The PP-7601 will charge up to six batteries independently, provides thermal protection, and slow/fast charge rates.

I just received mine and it's great.

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 00:29:24 1994
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>
Subject: boat anchors mailing list

Would you please add me to the boatanchors mailing list.
Thank you.

Brien
VE3VAW
pepperb@gov.on.ca

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 04:07:08 1994
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: Boatanchor Stereo Amp

Last February, I picked up an EICO HF-80 tube type stereo amp. It looks like a classical Williamson design and could prove to be a pretty neat amp, I now have 2 of them and no instructions, manuals, or schematics, and would like to beg the rest of you good folks to look around and see if you might have ANY info on this amp. I would like to use each one of these to power the Woofers in my Infinity RS-III's (2-10 inchers) and use my Dynaco Stereo-70 for the midranges and highs. Currently I am using a Soundcraftsman PCR-800 250 WPC transistor amp for the woofers and a ROTEL 100 WPC for the mids and tweeters....used to use the Soundcraftsman and the Dynaco together, and I love the smooth liquid high end of the Dyna...but the ROTEL has more punch....maybe with all tubes I won't need to run the heater this winter, the YL can listen to the stereo and stay warm while I bask in the glow of my BC-610's illuminating warmth! (Believe it or not, I have less TVI with the 610 than I do with my FT990 and Alpha 76P)....go figure.....

Rick Blank, KI5SL
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 05:57:15 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmidsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Re: Boatanchor Stereo Amp

Last February, I picked up an EICO HF-80 tube type stereo amp. It looks like a classical Williamson design and could prove to be a pretty neat amp, I now have 2 of them and no instructions, manuals, or schematics, and would like to beg the rest of you good

It is only normal for this group to listen to music through tubes! In case you don't find any answers here Rick, let me just mention that for this kind of inquiries, one is almost certain to find answers in the "rec.audio.high-end" group. Most folks there are "tube enthusiasts".

George

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 12:50:51 1994
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: Boatanchor Stereo Equipment

This is principally addressed to George Sifakis, but any and all members who want to contribute would be more than welcome.

George, I tried sending a bit of mail to you, maybe you'll get it, maybe you wont...my local server keeps sending back "unreachable host" so, I thought I'd try it this way.

I am very interested in signing on to any more newsgroups that have anything to do with audio equipment, classic or otherwise, and ham radio equipment. Any addresses to subscribe to such groups would be thankfully received.

We here in San Antonio have a 19.2kbaud TCP/IP network over 430 mhz that is tied in to a switch at a commercial establishment and as such our traffic is miniscule compared to the other internet traffic that goes on there. At the present and for the foreseeable future, all our Internet access is free. The ticket to admission, though, is a Kantronics D4-10 radio and an Ottawa PI2 card in our computers. At the same time we dont have some of the flashy "Front ends" that some on-line service providers have for their customers and setting up new stuff takes a group effort at times.

The info that I get from the BA mailgroup is shared with other interested hams here in town thru normal AX25 packet messages that I forward to them. Interesting pieces of mail that I receive here sometimes get forwarded for others to enjoy. The others that enjoy the forwardings wish to thank the contributors for their mailings, so, thanks folks!

So, if any of you folks out there have any more lists that I might subscribe to, send them on!

Thanks and 73 to all

Rick Blank, KI5SL
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 9 11:09:15 1994
From: Bing Huckle WB2SXN <ADMINH10@CLVM.BITNET>
Subject: boatanchors

subscribe boatanchors adminh10@clvm.bitnet

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 16:53:13 1994
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: Calibration

Gang,

Since I got interested in this a few days ago, thought I'd cross post to boatanchors and the qrp group.

I recently purchased from Tucker Electronics a HP Multimeter advertised for \$199 and advertised as being calibrated and good up to 700MHz. Well, I'm beginning to wonder as several scales don't work, but that I'll work out with them.

My question. I am interested in calibration techniques, i.e. how to construction a know voltage source with 0.01% accuracy. A long time ago, in a galaxy far away, I remember a glass tube with mercury, H2SO4, and other exotic chemicals to generate a DC voltage source. So, how do you check your meters? Do you care?

I'm looking for alternatives other than sending the thing off to some sweat-shop. Just a thought from my mind.

dit dit

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 17:00:09 1994
From: btoback@netcom.com (Bruce Toback)
Subject: Re: Calibration

Chuck Adams writes:

>My question. I am interested in calibration techniques, i.e.
>how to construction a know voltage source with 0.01% accuracy.
>A long time ago, in a galaxy far away, I remember a glass
>tube with mercury, H2SO4, and other exotic chemicals to generate
>a DC voltage source. So, how do you check your meters? Do you
>care?

New mercury batteries can be used for calibration to 0.1% - the voltage is 1.35 open-circuit. Beyond that, I don't know of any home-constructed primary standards. You could build your own secondary standard and send it to a calibration shop, but the mercury-cell method should be adequate for most purposes

There's a relatively new SQUID (superconducting quantum interference device) technique that will give you accuracy to .00001% (I think -- I may be off by an order of magnitude), but it's probably beyond the

capabilities of most home workshops.

-- Bruce KN6MN

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 17:16:54 1994
From: btoback@netcom.com (Bruce Toback)
Subject: Re: Calibration

Chuck Adams writes:

>My question. I am interested in calibration techniques, i.e.
>how to construction a know voltage source with 0.01% accuracy.
>A long time ago, in a galaxy far away, I remember a glass
>tube with mercury, H2SO4, and other exotic chemicals to generate
>a DC voltage source. So, how do you check your meters? Do you
>care?

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There's a relatively new SQUID (superconducting quantum interference device) technique that will give you accuracy to .00001% (I think -- I may be off by an order of magnitude), but it's probably beyond the capabilities of most home workshops.

-- Bruce KN6MN

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 23:23:11 1994
From: dmcintyr@acs.ucalgary.ca
Subject: Re: Calibration

Chuck:

I check my meters against an Weston Standard Cell (1.018 volts if my memory is correct). They are used by electrochemists etc to calibrate the DC voltmeters (actually slide-wire potentiometers) that they use to measure low (<2 volts) with high accuracy. Check with the chemistry department of your local university.

As far as accurate calibration of AC/RF voltmeters- your guess as as good as mine.

Cheers, Deane VE6BP0
dmcintyr@acs.ucalgary.ca

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 18:31:38 1994
From: wizard@celestat.com
Subject: COLLINS KW-1

I am thinking about letting my KW-1 go to a good home.
Ser # 82, EXCELLENT condition. I am 3rd owner.
Serious offers only.

Chuck (WA1IIE)

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 9 13:58:49 1994
From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry CONTRACTOR Keith Mr.)
Subject: CV-157?

Have run across a couple of CV-157 SSB adapters.. Were these the ones
used with the R-390A Receivers?

These are missing meters, but appear to be complete except for that..
Anyone know what the meters were?

And, what is one of these things worth?

73,

Larry
KQ4BY

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 01:40:09 1994
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: D104 replacements and parts

Rick Blank, KI5SL
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212
>

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 02:15:58 1994
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: D104's

Rick Blank, KI5SL
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org
2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 03:34:53 1994
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick_Blank)
Subject: D104's

I have a recent catalog from:

Santa Fe Distributing, Inc.
9640 Legler Road
Lenexa, Kansas 66219-1291
Toll Free order line: 1-800-255-6595
Fax Number: 1-800-255-6596
Local Number: 913-492-8288
Minimum \$50.00 order and they do ship C.O.D.

I have had good luck with them in the past and they have good prices on Diamond, Cush-Craft, Hy-Gain, Larsen, and others, but, they list several Astatic items of interest:

D104 "Silver Eagle".....\$69.00
D104 "Night Eagle".....\$69.00
TUG9D104 Stand.....\$58.90
MC320 Crystal mike cartridge.....\$13.90
MC321 Ceramic mike cartridge.....\$13.90
D104M6B.....\$35.90
(This is a crystal element in a hand
mike with a transistor amplifier, could
have interesting possibilities)

I've got 5 D104's with various stands, one's a "Silver Eagle" with its chrome base and head, and these mikes are great for trying to quell local QR-YL, especially after she rips the thing outta my hand and applies it liberally to the top of my noggin, my own personal operating award, it seems...everything sounds like CW afterwards.....

It's about 2300 local and in the AM is the annual Texas VHF Society's convention in Austin (about 90 miles up the road). They have a pretty good meet and have an indoor swap area with tables (welcome after noon when the temperatures soar towards 100 degs) and an outdoor tailgate area....It's a fairly well attended hamfest...will report on the BA's I find....

Till then, C U L ES 73

Rick Blank, KI5SL
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org

2223 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78212

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 20:53:47 1994
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: Drake TR4

Hello Laura. I kind of looked for you but I have 20-100 vision and I could get into trouble if I looked at women closely enough to read their name tags.

What did you think of the convention? Was it worth the trip? The flea market sure wasn't...

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those
Athabasca University : tuques we wear, our heads
Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"
** tech@cs.athabascau.ca ** : - Aurthor Black

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 02:25:29 1994
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: Re: Drake TR4

Deane VE6BP0 writes, of the RAC Convention flea market:

> ...as well as a Drake TR4 with speaker, non-Drake power supply
> and manuals. Seller was asking \$200. Came home with me for \$150
> (about \$110 U.S. \$). Seller threw in a spare set of 6CL6's and
> various other spare firebottles.

Congrats on the new rig! Enjoy! I kicked tyres on that TR4 myself, but wanted to get something I didn't already have (not to mention getting it home), and ended up with a (sorry folks...) Ramsey 30m QRP VXO transmitter kit, and a Bencher paddle.

> Any advice re the care and feeding of this beast would be most
> appreciated, this is my first Drake rig. Anyone know the reasoning
> behind using sweep tubes in this rig as opposed to 6146's or
> other "real" transmitting tubes as finals?

Sure: cost and (at the time) availability. Sweep tubes were mass produced for tv sets, so there were lots around, and they were cheap. Operationally, they work just like any other transmitting tube, but you *must* keep the duty cycle low (no SSTV or RTTY!). If a sweep tube is rated for 30 watts plate dissipation, a pair in an AB2 linear circuit will give you 100 watts or so output at reasonable efficiency, indefinitely. The tubes can develop 300-400 watts if they have to, but only for millisecond peaks,

hence the high PEP ratings for such rigs. My Swan 350 (6HF5 finals) manual quotes 400+ watts PEP input on SSB, but only 120 watts for AM/RTTY.

D'y'all suppose sweep tubes should be an entry in a revised BoatAnchors FAQ?

73 from Burnaby,
laura VE7LDH, sweep-tube rig owner (Swan 350 & Heath HW-16)

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 12:54:13 1994
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: Re: Drake TR4

>D'y'all suppose sweep tubes should be an entry in a revised
>BoatAnchors FAQ?

Yes. Useful topics might be:

- Interchange/substitution guidelines and examples (one was posted recently)
- One-line summary specs for a range of tubes
- Pin-outs for common base configs (there aren't too many different ones)
- Set matching procedure (choosing good sets among a group)
- Resoldering anode connector (I have two tubes with open anode connectors)
- Sources (such as antique electronic, and others)
- Straightening pins (these tubes have flimsy wire pins unlike other ba tubes)
- Cooling tips for sweeptube radios (I have a fan on top of each drake box)
- One-line summary info on some sweeptube linears (GLA-1000 series, galaxy box)
- Stores of how you abused the ratshack "lifetime guarantee"

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 21:24:53 1994
From: al511@freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU (Robert Neece)
Subject: Drake vs. Collins

Richard, VE6BSV, wrote:

>>I have always thought of Drake as the technology/price leader second only to
>>Collins

To me, Bob Drake was both a leader and a follower. The historians among us may know better, but I believe that until Collins introduced the PT0, nearly every manufacturer used a variable capacitor in the VFO circuit.

This helps to explain why Collins gear was among the first to have a linear dial readout. Although getting the tracking to be just right was quite a labor-intensive proposition, the PTO was quite suited to linear readout.

Perhaps because of cost, few went to linear readout even after it was demonstrated by Collins to be practicable. Drake, though, followed the Collins lead, and quite effectively, too.

In the R-4 receiver, Drake also copied the Collins pass-band tuning concept but, until the R-4C, did it with LC circuits rather than expensive, steep-shape-factor filters.

In other ways, though, Drake was a true original. The Drake AGC action on SSB outshines the best that Collins ever produced. Even the 75S-3B and 75S-3C are no competition for the Drake 2-B where AGC action for SSB is concerned.

And Drake gear beat Collins by a mile in affordability.

One reason Collins was expensive is that Collins stuff was good. There is no question about it.

There are other reasons, unrelated to quality, that might explain the Collins prices. To some extent, I am indulging in speculation, but here are some possibilities:

1. Collins used more expensive components
2. Collins had higher overhead owing to being geared up for military and avionics customers
3. Collins had an older, more established place in the market, with tremendous name recognition
4. Collins benefitted from the personal reputation of Art Collins
5. In some markets, Collins had no real competition

All of these factors sustained the Collins "mystique."
Other BAites, no doubt, can augment or correct my list.

I admired Collins. Still do. But usually *bought* Drake.

>>I am becoming such a Drake snob that I have
>>begun to consider Drake superior to Collins...

As I say, I believe that the Drake slow-decay AGC circuit (beginning with the 2-B) did much to foster first the acceptance, and then the popularity, of SSB among hams. Drake snobbery is an interesting irony, given that so many well heeled hams of the '50's, '60's, and '70's dripped

with Collins snobbery. In 1965, when I purchased my first R-4, I considered my own preference for Drake to qualify more as "reverse" snobbery.

--

73 de Bob, K0KR

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 13:14:42 1994
From: Nick England <nick@cs.unc.edu>
Subject: EF Johnson transverter ??

I was talking with a fellow at the High Point NC hamfest this weekend who said he had a rare EF Johnson item at home. Says it is a 6 and 2 meter Transverter (10meter input 6 or 2 output). Says the guy he got it from worked at EFJ and they built a dozen or so prototypes for employees but never marketed it. Says it is the same size as the SSB adapter and somehow incorporates the rcv converter that EFJ did market.

Anyone ever hear of this transverter ? Any idea what it is worth ? The guy who owns it says he wants to sell it to a really serious EFJ collector (for I guess really serious dollars). Me, I'm in the semi-serious class I reckon.

Nick KD4CPL
nick@cs.unc.edu

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 23:36:58 1994
From: censun1!gc@uunet.uu.net (Gary Chatters)
Subject: Re: FM B'CAST Monitoring

>

>Does anyone have any suggestions on obtaining a receiver that covers the FM
>broadcast band (88-108mhz) with an adjustable squelch that has extremely good
>adjacent channel selectivity and sensitivity? The receiver will be "parked"
>on a locally "empty" FM channel and will be hooked to a vox controlled tape
>recorder along with a clock.

>

Well, this is the boatanchors list, so hopefully someone will tell us if some of the Nems-Clarke telemetry receivers would do the job.

I saw one at a hamfest last March that covered the VHF range. It was a tube radio and was rather cheap (about \$20 but I don't remember exactly).

They usually have a couple of different bandwidths; maybe 20kc and 300kc or something like that. If the local stations are one channel away (200kc) you may have a problem.

Off hand, I can't remember if the one I saw had a squelch.

Gary

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 16:32:56 1994
From: X90GALBRAIT1@wmich.edu
Subject: For sale or swap (again)...

Swan 500 + 230sx p.s./spkr for sale or swap for old cool stuff!
e-zap me for details...\$200 obo

73, Chris KA8WFC (X90GALBRAIT1@WMICH.EDU)

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 14:57:18 1994
From: rdkeys@csemail (R. D. Keys)
Subject: Re: Friday Night Fist Function

>
> Bob,
> I just wanted to ask you how the Friday Night Fist Function went this
> morning. Did many people show up?

We had six stations check in, all from the east coast, but some using
boatanchors, some using QRP and some using the standard sort of modern
rigs. The ``net'' lasted for about one hour, and a good time was had
by all.

> I am relatively new in ham radio
> (I got my first license in February this year.), and I am trying to
> improve my CW fist. This Friday Night Fist Function seems to be an
> ideal opportunity for me. Unfortunately, however, I do not have my
> own rig, and I only use the rig of my radio club W1AF, which is about
> 45-minute drive from my apartment. I can not drive there at midnight
> our time, i.e., 0000 EDT or 0400 Z, and I am wondering if it is possible
> to have this fist function sometime a little earlier in the evening
> in the future. For instance, 2000 EDT or 0000 Z once a month or so in
> the near future.

It might be possible.

The reason for midnight EST was to get a many folks on from across
the country, as possible (midnight is 9pm on the west coast). After
the evening herd has vacated the bands, it becomes sufficiently
quiet to allow some easy CW chitchat, without great quantities of QRM.

>
> I would also like to know if there is any group on the Internet which
> is about CW in particular because I operate only in CW mode. Thanks.

There are a number of the botanchor boys and the QRP boys that are on the internet, so try either group. Send a message to boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu or qrp@think.com and express your interest. I am sure you will get some good replies.

>
> 73, Yuzuru Suzuki, AA1JA, Harvard University
>

73 TU SU SK DE NA4G
Bob

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 9 09:56:21 1994
From: "Kearman, Jim, KR1S" <jkearman@arrl.org>
Subject: FW: (fwd) RFD rec.antiques.radio+phono

Newsgroups:
news.announce.newgroups,news.groups,rec.antiques,rec.audio.tech,rec.radio.am
ate
eur.misc
Subject: RFD rec.antiques.radio+phono
Followup-To: news.groups
Date: 4 Aug 1994 15:16:42 -0400
Organization: University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Lines: 63
Sender: tale@uunet.uu.net
Approved: tale@uunet.uu.net
Message-ID: <31reqq\$5on@rodan.UU.NET>
NNTP-Posting-Host: rodan.uu.net

RFD REC.ANTIQUES.RADIO+PHONO

Name: rec.antiques.radio+phono (unmoderated)

Charter: Discussion of the use, repair, and collecting of early
standard-broadcast radios; phonographs; and any other
similarly-related items designed for home entertainment
sound receiving or sound reproduction.

Proposed Discussion Period: The 21 days following official acceptance of
this proposal by the moderator of news.announce.newgroups

Scope: This group is intended to be a forum for those with an interest in sound-receiving and sound-reproduction equipment that was generally manufactured prior to the widespread use of transistors. The group's discussion, however, will not be strictly limited to vacuum-tube and mechanical devices, and those with an interest in early transistor radios, early televisions, and other such items that reflect pioneering audio technology will be welcomed.

Exclusions:

Amateur radio equipment discussion will be directed to the existing amateur radio newsgroups and to the boatanchors list. This is only done because those groups present an established forum for people with an interest in classic amateur radio equipment. Those classic amateur radio collectors who also share an interest in early standard-broadcast equipment will fully appreciate the desire to separate the two interests. Their valuable expertise will, however, be most welcome in all forums.

Rationale:

Hierarchy - This group is proposed as a sub-group of rec.antiques because much of the equipment in question shares the common feature of being designed as home furnishing and/or decoration. For this reason, there is a close affiliation between those with an interest in early home-use sound reproduction equipment and others with interests in antique furniture restoration, appreciation for decorative style of various historic eras, and the historic importance of original sound recordings and broadcasts. Furthermore, the discussion of "classic" *amateur* radio often involves terminology and subject matter that is outside the vocabulary and interest of many antique radio and phono collectors.

While there is certainly some obvious technical common ground, there is clearly good cause for two separate groups to exist and for them to be separated under different hierarchies.

Newsgroup Name - The choice of rec.antiques.radio+phono was made to reflect the interests of the group of enthusiasts (mostly contributors to rec.antiques) who began discussing the formation of a new newsgroup more than a year ago. It was the intention of those first interested parties to form a group that distinctly focused on, and clearly identified, an interest in the closely-related development of home-use phonographs (including cylinder players, music boxes, related materials, etc.) and standard-broadcast radios (and related equipment). Any person who feels compelled

to propose an alternative name is asked to first consider that the intention of this proposal is to create a group with very specific interests, and not one that is so broad as to include all early technology, electronic equipment, etc.

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 9 13:06:58 1994
From: Bill Robie <robie@umbc.edu>
Subject: Re: FW: (fwd) RFD rec.antiques.radio+phono

Just as a parenthetical addition to Jim's forward of the RFD for rec.antiques.radio+phono, the e-mailed support of BA fixture Roy Morgan brought our list of "will vote yes" folks to the 50 mark, with others added since then. It is going to be a bit tight, but I think that we'll be able to muster enough support to get this passed. The formal CFV (call for votes) will be announced on, or about, 8/25. I'll make sure that the BA list receives "the word" on voting procedures, and those who send me e-mail stating an intention to support the group will be kept on our numbered list of Founding Firebottles (or whatever) for posterity -- but please don't forget to vote! :-)

Cheers!

Bill
robie@umbc7.umbc.edu

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 12:53:03 1994
Subject: Fw: (fwd) WANTED: Hallicrafters HA-20 VFO, SX-117 RX, SR-400/A
From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry CONTRACTOR Keith Mr.)

(forwarding comment)

Please contact the poster...

73,

Larry, KQ4BY

(original message follows)

Path: wrdis02.robins.af.mil!aus1.robins.af.mil!mane.cgrg.ohio-state.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!nntp.msstate.edu!olivea!uunet!newsflash.concordia.ca!canopus.cc.umanitoba.ca!silver.cs.umanitoba.ca!rflukes
>From: rflukes@silver.cs.umanitoba.ca (Richard F. Lukes)
Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.equipment
Subject: WANTED: Hallicrafters HA-20 VFO, SX-117 RX, SR-400/A TXCVR...

Date: 29 Jul 1994 14:25:35 GMT
Organization: Computer Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada
Lines: 18
Distribution: na
Message-ID: <31b3gv\$clq@canopus.cc.umanitoba.ca>
NNTP-Posting-Host: silver.cs.umanitoba.ca

I am looking to purchase the following Hallicrafters equipment:

HA-20 VFO
SX-117 Receiver
SR-400/A Transceiver

Willing to buy non-working units in repairable condition.

Please email me if you have any of these items for sale, or know where they can be purchased.

Thanks,
--Rich
--

Richard F. Lukes rflukes@silver.cs.UManitoba.CA
Computer Science Department
University of Manitoba HOME: (204)-257-6701
Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA WORK: (204)-474-8696

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 01:15:35 1994
From: "Roy Morgan" <morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Drake B-Line for sale

REPLY TO ORIGINATOR.

----- Forwarded message begins here -----

>From: M G Laubach <matt@efn.org>
Newsgroups: rec.radio.swap
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 1994 18:22:50 GMT
Subject: Drake B-Line for sale
Classic Drake B-line with R-4B receiver, T-4XB xmtr, AC-4 power supply & MS-4 speaker cabinet.

In good condition with no rust on chassis. Needs minor stuff like 1 foot for the MS-4, and a knob for the R-4B crystal select. Could use a little cleaning to get some dust off, but no grunge. There are a couple of dents in the top cabinet of the R-4B.

Receiver works fine and includes an extra 10 meter crystal. XMTR works fine, except it doesn't seem to load up on 80 meters for some reason.

Non-ham owner would like to get \$325 for the station. If you think that's unreasonable, send us your best offer.

If interested, please send e-mail, or call me at (503)-683-4675 in Eugene,OR

Thanx

matt@efn.org
n0gth

----- Forwarded message ends here -----

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From ab4e1.com Mon Aug 8 12:10:42 1994
From: "Roy Morgan" <morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Heath DX-100 For Sale

----- Forwarded message begins here -----
>From: Everett W. Curry Jr. <ecurry@teleport.com>
Path: coil!darwin.sura.net!mojo.eng.umd.edu!cs.umd.edu!news.umbc.edu!
europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!udel!news.sprintlink.net!
news.world.net!news.teleport.com!news.teleport.com!not-for-mail
Date: 3 Aug 1994 14:46:21 -0700
Subject: Heath DX-100 For Sale
The subject says it. I'm in Oregon and am taking offers.

--
ecurry@teleport.com
Everett Curry
Hillsboro, Oregon, USA

----- Forwarded message ends here -----

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 13:50:40 1994
From: "Roy Morgan" <morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Heathkit HF Station for Sale

CHECK THE PRICE!

----- Forwarded message begins here -----
>From: Jack Lupic <af005@FreeNet.Carleton.CA>
Newsgroups: rec.radio.swap
Date: Tue, 2 Aug 1994 02:07:27 GMT
Subject: Heathkit HF Station for Sale

The complete Heathkit HF station in mint condition for \$CAN 300 with manuals and cables. You pay shipping. Following 80-10M equipment is included:

- *SB-401 Transmitter
- *SB-303 Receiver
- *SB-200 1KW Linear Amp

For \$CAN 200, Yeasu FT-221R - 2M SSB, FM, CW transceiver

Phone: (416) 431-0651

--

Jack Lupic, Scarborough - Ontario, Canada
af005@FreeNet.Carleton.CA // 70373.43@CompuServe.COM

----- Forwarded message ends here -----

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 20:33:20 1994
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: Gone Fishing

Vacation Time is here! Please don't send me anything that you want a reply to for the next 10 days. See you on the 17th.

PS: I do check for voice mails at 412-234-8819 if it's urgent.

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 20:41:36 1994
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: Gone Fishing

Vacation Time is here! Please don't send me anything that you want a reply to for the next 10 days. See you on the 17th.

PS: I do check for voice mails at 412-234-8819 if it's urgent.

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 23:30:16 1994
From: Raymond Sumperl <Raymond.P.Sumperl.1@ksc.nasa.gov>
Subject: Hallicrafters SR-2000

Greetings to one and all...

Has anyone ever used a Hallicrafters SR-2000 xcvr?

Ray

From ab4el.com Sun Aug 7 18:29:29 1994
From: censun1!gc@uunet.uu.net (Gary Chatters)
Subject: Hamfest report: zilch

Yet Another Hamfest Report :-)

Those of us in the Baltimore/Washington area had two hamfests to chose from today (Sunday, Aug 7). I went to the nearby Southern Patuxent Hamfest in Upper Marlboro, Md. This was their fourth annual event, so it is relatively new. It was rather heavily advertised; I received a couple of flyers in the mail. It ended up being a small event; it only took a bit over an hour to walk around the tailgate area.

As far as boatanchors goes, it was just about a zero. There was a Drake R4A/T4X combination and someone had a TR4. That was it.

It was a bit better for vintage solid-state but I'll report that to another list.

The other area hamfest was the 44th annual Berryville, VA hamfest. Anyone get there?

Find of the Fest: It has to be a really poor hamfest that I can't find something a little interesting at. Someone there had a few Bliley 100kc crystals; I bought one for \$1. These crystals are mounted in a glass octal tube (looks the same as a

vacuum tube) so you can see the crystal. The crystal is plated and has two wire contacts soldered to each side near the center. The crystal is mounted in a vertical plane and the two wires appear to be the only support.

Questions: Does anyone know why there are two contacts on each side of the crystal? Is it designed for or require any special circuit? Any special reason for mounting it in the glass tube? Anything else of interest?

Gary

From ab4el.com Sun Aug 7 20:41:10 1994
From: "J. D. Delancy" <k1zat@bah.com>
Subject: Re: Hamfest report: zilch

On Sun, 7 Aug 1994, Gary Chatters wrote:

> Those of us in the Baltimore/Washington area had two
> hamfests to chose from today (Sunday, Aug 7). I went to
> the nearby Southern Patuxent Hamfest in Upper Marlboro, Md.
> As far as boatanchors goes, it was just about a zero. There
> was a Drake R4A/T4X combination and someone had a TR4. That was it.

I saw some; Guess that someone got the BC639 before you got there.
All those MOTRAC's didnt do anything for you (smile)?

jd

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 13:51:59 1994
From: censun1!gc@uunet.uu.net (Gary Chatters)
Subject: Re: Hamfest report: zilch

In reply to my report about the Southern Patuxent Hamfest, jd writes:

>
>I saw some; Guess that someone got the BC639 before you got there.

Could be. But, it seems like no matter how much time I spend at a hamfest, someone finds something that I missed.

>All those MOTRAC's didnt do anything for you (smile)?
>

Well, they've got tube finals but I consider them in the realm of vintage solid-state, so I report on those to the VSS maillist.

I did notice that the U64 for \$15 (or \$10) sold fairly quickly.

Gary

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 19:25:52 1994
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: Hammarlund MC325M variable capacitors

I have 2 only NOS Hammarlund MC325M capacitors:

325 pf
single gang with ceramic end plates
appear good for 1Kv minimum

I found two of these while cleaning up the shack last night. They are in their original boxes and packing material. I bought them 20 years ago cheap at a surplus.

Only Hammarlunds I own and I never use them:) Any idea what these would be worth? Any offers?

There are other high voltage components I should sell off as well as I clean this place up.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those
Athabasca University : tuques we wear, our heads
Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"
** tech@cs.athabascau.ca ** : - Aurthor Black

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 19:16:35 1994
From: Jerald Pendleton <jerald@wrs.com>
Subject: Heathkit tip from netnews

I saw this on net news. I thought it might be of interest to the community...

Forwarded message:

> I received a number of tips suggesting O-rings as replacements for the
> rubber belts used in the Heathkit HW-100 and HW-101. (Thanks to Pete Rossi,
> Dave Adams, and Jeffrey Angus.)
>
> In case others are interested, I found some at our local Home Depot
> (discount hardware store, San Diego area) that fit perfectly:
>
> #89 O-rings, dimensions 2-3/16" X 2" X 3/32"
>
> BTW, they were only \$0.49 each.
>

> --
> Jerry Palsson AA6KI
> palsson@ucssun1.sdsu.edu
> --

Jerald R. Pendleton Email: jerald@wrs.com, Personal Email: jrpend@netcom.com
The preceeding message represents only the opinon of the author. This
do not represent the opinions/positions of Wind River Systems, my mother,
my wife or my poodle.

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 06:58:37 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmdsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Re: Heathkit tip from netnews

> I received a number of tips suggesting O-rings as replacements for the
> rubber belts used in the Heathkit HW-100 and HW-101. (Thanks to Pete Rossi,
> Dave Adams, and Jeffrey Angus.)

I'll second that. I've used O-rings in a HW-101 with good results. Jim
Lockwood has the rig now and he could tell us if they also last long.

George SV0KA

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 21:14:05 1994
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: re: Hickok manuals, thankee lads

I got a raft of replies including Manuals Plus who didn't have the right Hickok
manuals but sold me one for my Simpson 260 Series III. What the heck eh?

A couple calls later I got one from Tucker for a significant piece of change.
Oooh that smarts.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those
Athabasca University : tuques we wear, our heads
Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"
** tech@cs.athabascau.ca ** : - Aurthor Black

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 14:21:44 1994
From: Nick England <nick@cs.unc.edu>
Subject: High Point NC hamfest

I enjoy seeing other people's hamfest reports as it gives me some idea what is showing up and what reasonable prices are. Here's my contribution:

High Point NC, small hamfest in an armory (mostly dealers and shareware, plus ten or so individuals) plus ~40 tailgaters. A pleasant affair, friendly crowd, and the weather was great.

NC-183 (not D) complete rust spots on cabinet - working \$50
HR0-7 ? big and old good shape - \$400 I think

30S-1 good \$575 sold
75A-3 excellent \$375 unsold
75A-2 excellent \$350 unsold
75S-3 rack mount excellent \$350 unsold

Eldico SSB100F excellent \$150
Eldico SSB xcvr good \$175

Heath AC-1 ant coupler \$5
Globe ant coupler \$5
Knight 100 in 1 kit \$5 (I couldn't resist)

Hammarlund Comet Pro w spkr \$125 unsold I think

Lafayette KT-390 Starflite xmtr w VFO \$50

Heath monobanders with p/s three for \$300 (UNSOLD!!)
Heath SB-221 \$500

Drake TR-4 with VFO
Drake 2BQ \$40

EFJ Valiant cabinet and front panel \$12
(guy had ripped out the guts because he wanted to build a linear in the cabinet - one man's junk is another man's treasure !!)

Nick KD4CPL
nick@cs.unc.edu

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 18:00:41 1994
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM
Subject: HW-16 mods (was Re: Period modifications)

->To: boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu

->From: wier@merlin.etsu.edu (Bob Wier)
->Subject: Re: Period modifications
->Status: RO
->
->>could. The HW-16 was, and is, such a fantastic little CW rig. If it
->>would have had a built-in xmit VFO, I doubt that I would have ever sold
->>it, to acquire my SB-100. The dial drive is simple, and the dial is
->>only calibrated every 5 KHz, and has no xtal cal, or dial adjustment.
->>Yet it is a very smooth receiver to use, and the fixed 400 Hz crystal
->>filter is very nice.
->>
->
->I built my HW 16 circa 1970 or so. I think it probably didn't have a VFO
->since novices at the time were limited to crystal control. When I upgraded
->
->
-> ===== Round Up the Usual Disclaimers! =====
-> Bob Wier, keeper of the Adobe Photoshop, Icom
-> radio (WB5KXH), and Motorola HC11 mailing lists
-> wier@merlin.etsu.edu

I had always thought it would be neat to take a HW-16 and add a mixer unit to the receiver VFO to produce the correct transmit frequency then pump it into the transmitter section to provide full transceive VFO operation. I never really had a chance to look at a schematic close enough to see how difficult it would really be to do but I can't see how it could be all that hard to do... You would also want to add RIT at the same time.

Now if I only had an HW-16 to experiment with...

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Unisys Corporation - Government Systems Group
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 12:59:09 1994
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Subject: Re: I did a boo-boo....Help.

>Without going into how I could be so *stupid* (it involved augusts
>QST), I managed to have my hw16-hg10b go key down into an open antenna
>circuit for about 10 minutes.

>

>What have I done to my poor radio?

>
>After I let things cool, I very cautiously powered up and hooked in
>the dummy load. The xmitter power is around 5 watts (I was getting close
>to 80 pre idiot maneuver). You'd sort of expect that. Oh well, find
>a new set of final tubes. But the strange thing is that the VFO seems
>to be waaay off frequency. When I tried to tune the VFO it seems to be
>half a band from where it should be.
>
>The receiver seems ok. I don't quite understand what I could have done
>to the VFO.
>
>Any help, hints or insight would be greatly appreciated.
>
>
>Thanks,
>Jerry Pendleton
>(Downgrading to no-code)
>-----
>Jerald R. Pendleton Email: jerald@wrs.com, Personal Email: jrpend@netcom.com

Welcome to the human race, Jerry! And especially, welcome to that most odd subset thereof, amateur radio!

I had a HW-16 many years ago. Great rig. I hated the dial action on the HG-10B VFO, but it worked. Actually, we had 3 such setups for Novice use at my high school club (1 for each band!). I had one at home as well, but with the older VF-1 VFO. Fun! I never had to fix the problem you mention (because I never left a brick on the key for 10 minutes, and never into an open load, no less :)), however, you should be able to fix it up.

Check out all components in the final amp circuit, of course. Check bias resistors, RF coupling cap, plate RFC.

But start with the power supply! The ps is probably what has sustained the most damage. Hopefully, you have only damaged some filter caps, or resistors. That's probably why your VFO is detuned. It is probably unstable as well. If your receiver still works (and how do you know that IT is working properly? Did you check its calibration?) then you didn't blow the rig up, and there is lots of hope!

Check all power connections to the VFO, and internal to it.

If you have Heath manuals for your units, they will include voltage test points. That is probably the quickest way to isolate the problem(s).

Good luck, and use your callsign when posting - no need to be ashamed!!

73,

Kalman Laudon WD6CZI
klaudon@pica.army.mil

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 19:59:40 1994
From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry CONTRACTOR Keith Mr.)
Subject: Idaho checks in...

Please contact Russ, if you can help.. I just wish I had a 75S3 to fix..

73,

Larry, KQ4BY

Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.equipment
Subject: Collins Receiver Dial Problem
Date: 30 Jul 1994 15:08:05 -0400
Organization: America Online, Inc. (1-800-827-6364)
Lines: 10
Sender: news@search01.news.aol.com
Message-ID: <31e8e1\$ct8@search01.news.aol.com>
NNTP-Posting-Host: search01.news.aol.com

I have a very nice 75S3B Receiver that works very well but the dial needs help. It sticks, binds and jumps. I also have the companion transmitter 32S1 with a dial that works very well. Does anyone know how to adjust the dials? I tried taking it apart but the deeper I got into it the more I saw that stopped me because of no info.

Any other other died in the wool freaks for radios that "glow in the dark"?

Thanks Russ Ellsworth...WA6CWV...Boise, Idaho

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 13:37:08 1994
From: dennis@irissun2.fp.trw.com (Dennis Gibbs)
Subject: Idea for new thread: The WORST boatanchor deal...

Greetings all,

I've heard almost everyone on this list at one point or another talk about some great deal they made on a new boatanchor purchase.

How about this for a new thread: What is the WORST boatanchor purchase you've ever made? Don't be embarrassed, it can't be any worse than what I rate as my worst deal, as follows:

In 1988-1989, when I renewed my interest in boatanchors, I became interested in acquiring an R390A. I had no idea of how much they were selling for at hamfests. At about this same time, I began to see ads in Monitoring Times from a company selling reconditioned/aligned/calibrated R390A's. With Fed Ex shipping, I bought one for \$750!

It did work quite well, and I was happy with it until I discovered hamfests again and began finding them for \$200-\$300. I ended up selling this R390A to a fellow boatanchors subscriber (Are you still out there, Bill?) for \$250, a \$500 loss. It was a good receiver, and it was also a real Collins (as opposed to the ones made by the other subcontractors). But after seeing them at hamfests for so much less, I couldn't sell it for close to what I paid for it and still sleep at night.

Another less-than-satisfactory deal I made was a National HRO-60 that I paid \$400 for a couple of years ago. It ended up developing problems that I did not know how to fix and I ended up selling it for \$125 (Yes, I told the buyer about the problems!)

Bad deals can work the other direction, as well. I am still kicking myself big time for selling a MINT Collins R-389. I got \$250 for it but I sure do wish I had it now, I have seldom ever seen them, and when I do they are no where near the condition the one I had was in.

So let's hear some more war stories! What's the worst deal(s) you have made regarding boatanchors?

Dennis

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 15:03:02 1994
From: djw@unlinfo.unl.edu (Daniel Wright)
Subject: Re: Idea for new thread: The WORST boatanchor deal...

>

>How about this for a new thread: What is the WORST boatanchor

>purchase you've ever made?

.....>

>So let's hear some more war stories! What's the worst

>deal(s) you have made regarding boatanchors?

>

>

>Dennis

>

Standby! I MAY have one(bad,bad deal) working even as we speak!!!!

Dan -- WA0JRD.....

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 19:59:30 1994

From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry CONTRACTOR Keith Mr.)

Subject: Re: Idea for new thread: The WORST boatanchor deal...

> So let's hear some more war stories! What's the worst

> deal(s) you have made regarding boatanchors?

Well, I will admit to paying \$125 for an SB-100.. I thought I was buying an SB-104... Just goes to show that that it pays to read the "for sale" messages real close...

Or, how about the ARC-5 xmtr that I casually picked up in bone yard, noted the \$5 price tag, gave the man a Lincoln, and walked on.. When I opened it back at the truck was when I found out that it had already been cannibalized.. All I bought was a cabinet, dial assy, and one (broken) variable cap for my \$5..

There are some other stories. But, they are not fit for public forums...

C'mon.. Let's hear some more!

73,

Larry, KQ4BY

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 10:20:35 1994

From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL

Subject: Re: Idea for new thread: The WORST boatanchor deal...

>Well, I will admit to paying \$125 for an SB-100.. I thought I was
>buying an SB-104... Just goes to show that that it pays to read the
>"for sale" messages real close...

>

>73,
>
>Larry, KQ4BY

Larry, IMHO you got a great deal! The SB-100 is a fantastic rig - worth twice the price!

I paid around \$ 250 for my SB-100. It had the SB-101 mods, came with p/s, spkr cabinet, Shure mic, and some spare finals, I think. I thought I got a pretty decent deal!

Of course, this was over 20 years ago, when "current technology" was the SB-102 (HW-101 was also still being sold) kit from Heathkit!

A guy at work was advertising "ham radio equipment" in the weekly bulletin. Turns out, he buys junk and tries to sell it for real money! I finally met up with him, and on impulse, offered to buy the single QST issue that he had (May, '53) in his van. He asked me how much I was willing to pay. For some reason (perhaps embarrassment, because I wasn't going to buy any of the stuff he had brought) I offered him FIVE DOLLARS. He took it. About a second after the words had left my mouth, I was saying to myself, "What the heck did you just do?".

Oh well, it is an interesting issue, actually. Lots of photos and ads for the just-introduced 75A3 receiver, factory upgrades for 75A2, HR0-60, the new HQ-140X, and lots of others. Lots of interesting articles, including one on TVI (says if you can live w/o 10 meters, do so!), and an article (with photograph) on the famous Wouff Hong.

I guess it was worth the 5 bucks after all!

73,
Kalman Laudon WD6CZI
SB-100, HQ-One-Seventy

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 19:09:31 1994
From: "Kearman, Jim, KR1S" <jkearman@arrl.org>
Subject: Interested in vacuum tubes?

New make-your-own vacuum tube **KITS** are offered by George Schmermund of Science Resources. After you build your own vacuum tube triode, you put it to work in a regenerative receiver.

Contact George at 1260 Liberty Way, Suite B
Vista, CA 92083, tel 619-727-6933.

(Info courtesy of Don Lancaster.)

Don't ask me, I'm just posting the info!

73

Jim

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 20:20:48 1994
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: Re: Interested in vacuum tubes?

>New make-your-own vacuum tube **KITS** are offered

First, start with 10 pounds of beach sand and a smelter...

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 11:08:47 1994
From: Greg Wasik <greg@willie.nl.nuwc.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Interested in vacuum tubes?

>>New make-your-own vacuum tube **KITS** are offered
>
>First, start with 10 pounds of beach sand and a smelter...
>
Is bandwidth getting cheaper ?

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 15:10:50 1994
From: Greg Wasik <greg@willie.nl.nuwc.navy.mil>
Subject: Re: Interested in vacuum tubes?

>>New make-your-own vacuum tube **KITS** are offered
>
>First, start with 10 pounds of beach sand and a smelter...
>
Is bandwidth getting cheaper ?

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 20:28:14 1994
From: ys@isr.harvard.edu (Yuzuru Suzuki)
Subject: Internet Group for CW

I have a quick question. Is there any Internet group for CW in particular?
If anybody knows any such group, please send an E-mail to ys@isr.harvard.edu.
Thanks.

73, Yuzuru Suzuki, AA1JA

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 17:43:12 1994
From: rdkeys@csemail (R. D. Keys)
Subject: Re: Jeremiah O'Brien

>From Doug Faunt:

> The new information on the Jeremiah O'Brien is that it's in Portland,
> Maine, where she was built. She should be there another week, and
> then will proceed down the East Coast with stops at Baltimore,
> Jacksonville and Miami.
> If you visit her, try to get the radio ops to set up a schedule for CW
> operations in the ham bands for general contacts.
> 73, doug

Note: To anyone who may be visiting the O'Brien --- PLEASE get up with
the R/O/s, hams aboard and suggest to them that they would do
THEMSELVES and the amateur community a friendly gesture IF they
would kindly fire up anything on CW (on any ham band they can
work). There are a lot of us in the bilges that would love to
QSO the ship, if the ops were receptive to it, on CW. Surely
someone aboard still knows how to manipulate a key. Why they
have been so hard to find on CW is strange, since the ship
probably NEVER was equipped to run SSB, but, that is another
story. (.... I do know the answer to that one.....).

Anyone who goes aboard, kindly keep us posted.

Thanks

Bob

* 73 TU SU SK DE NA4G ``Boat Anchor Bob'', an ol' CW fart. *

* Morse has been in the family for over 100 years. *
* Morse radiotelegraphy (Spark/CW) has been in the family since 1914. *

* May you have fair winds and following seas on your watch at the key. *

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 18:28:35 1994
From: rdkeys@csemail (R. D. Keys)
Subject: Re: Jeremiah O'Brien

>From Doug Faunt:

> The new information on the Jeremiah O'Brien is that it's in Portland,
> Maine, where she was built. She should be there another week, and
> then will proceed down the East Coast with stops at Baltimore,
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* May you have fair winds and following seas on your watch at the key. *
*****
```


From ab4e1.com Tue Aug 2 21:03:20 1994
From: Schroeder.Wbst207V@xerox.com
Subject: Manual Request - AN/URM-25-F

Hollowstaters,

I recently acquired an AN/URM-25-F 10 Khz to 50 Mhz signal generator with mechanical problems. I am looking for a manual (original or copy) to buy or borrow & copy.

Any leads would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Russ W2DYY

Schroeder.Wbst207V@Xerox.com

From ab4e1.com Tue Aug 2 22:57:38 1994
From: Schroeder.Wbst207V@xerox.com
Subject: Manual Request - AN/URM-25-F

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Any leads would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Russ W2DYY

Schroeder.Wbst207V@Xerox.com

From ab4e1.com Sat Aug 6 21:22:22 1994
From: WaltN@aol.com
Subject: Manuals needed

I have need of the following manuals and would appreciate any help my fellow boaranchorites can provide:

1. Original, not copy for TMC GPR-90 (or R-825/URR)
2. Original, not copy for diversity setup FRR-49 (aka DRP-1)

3. Original or copy for Model WWVC rack-mounted WWV receiver made by Specific Products, LA. This rcvr has a 2" 'scope.

First two manuals for a friend...if I didn't get the numbers right on #2, or more info is needed, please email me.

Thanks & 73s,
Walt

From ab4el.com Sun Aug 7 02:00:24 1994
From: glitwin@craysea.cray.com (Gary Litwin)
Subject: Menachem - Please email me

Menachem -
Please email me your email address, I would like to ask you some questions about your recent R390A purchase.

Thanks!
Gary Litwin
glitwin@craysea.cray.com

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 15:19:35 1994
From: Raymond Sumperl <Raymond.P.Sumperl.1@ksc.nasa.gov>
Subject: Mikes for rigs...

Greeting to one and all...

I have several Hallicrafters xcvs that do not have mikes. I assume the proper mike to use is a dynamic mike. My question to the group is: 1) Are there different impedance dynamic mikes and if there is 2) Would it matter to the rig? With the Melbourne fest coming up, I'm thinking of selling some of the Hallicrafters xcvs I have.

Ray

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 00:52:31 1994
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: Military, NC-100, etc.

CONTACT: Don Merz, N3RHT: 47 Hazel Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228
412-234-8819 (weekdays, EST).

FOR SALE

British Military Keys: "WT 8 AMP #2 Mark III." See AWA Review Volume 7.

Very Good. \$49 each.

Signal Corps TG-5B Telegraph Set. 1943. New-in-box. \$130

TCS-5. Early Collins-made TCS set with gray transmitter and black receiver.

These are not quite new-in-the-box, but they look it. With antenna loading coil (used), noise blanker kit (new-in-box), cables and control box (used) and complete spares kit plus dynamotor supply brand new in unopened wooden crate. Excellent+. \$469

Collins TCS spares kit. Includes spare dynamotor. Unopened. Mint. \$49

Collins TCS dynamotor supply. New-in-unopened-packaging. Mint. \$119. One left.

Collins TCS noise blanker kits. New-in-packaging. \$22 each. 5 left.

They're back! National NDC-07 speaker cabinets. Brand new in the original packaging. Light gray color matches the HRO-7, etc. No driver, just the cabinet. Mint. \$45 each. Four left.

NDC-07. This one has no box and has some scuff marks on the paint. \$29

National NC-100. This is the general coverage precursor to the famous NC-101.

This 1938 radio initiated the Millen sliding-coil tray design. PW-dial, art-deco front panel and tuning eye!. Very good or better original condition. No mods. Untested. \$249

Military TBX-8 transciever. Famous WWII-era set used to support Marine Corps amphibious landings. Extra-nice original condition. \$229

EF-8 gas generator. This is the principle power unit for the TBX. With cable, gas can, oil can and spares kit and cable (!--it may be worth is just to find that!) all in beat-up transit case. New. Opened, but never used and never unsealed. \$150 + a big shipping bill.

Hand-crank generator leg sets. Two plain legs and one with wooden seat on it.

These clip onto any GN-4x hand-crank generator such as used with the SCR-284, BC-1306 and dozens of others. \$25/set. By the way, the legs without the seat in these sets are the same legs used on the BC-654 (but you need four of them).

Hand-crank generator handles. \$10/pair.

WWII dynamotor test set. Neat military setup. Used. Good. \$69

DY-88 vibrator/dynamotor supply for the GRC-9 and BC-1306. Used, good: \$69

DAG-1 WWII military RDF set with plug-in loop antenna. Looks like a miniature BC-654. Missing vibrator supply (same one used in BC-654). Looks good.

Untested. Rare collector set. \$289

RBM-5 WWII ship-to-shore. One of the best looking Navy radios ever. Used, untested. Includes separate dynamotor supply which appears to be brand new and used remote control. Nice+. The remote control is and absolutely unfindable rarity. \$249

1939 ARRL handbook. Good. \$48

BC-1335 WWII jeep radio with battery box. Good, untested. \$119

BC-1335 WWII jeep radio with battery box and battery charger. Used, good, untested. \$159

Wilcox CW-3 crystal controlled HF receiver. Single channel. Rackmount.

Brand new with manual. \$69

RM-13J control unit. Used, good. \$49

BC-611 switch cover. Strap-on cover prevents accidental transmission. New-

in packaging. \$7

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 01:35:12 1994
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Subject: Military, NC-100, etc.

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RM-13J control unit. Used, good. \$49

BC-611 switch cover. Strap-on cover prevents accidental transmission. New-in packaging. \$7

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 04:09:25 1994

From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu

Subject: Mosley SWL Vertical

to: boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu

Hello Ray.

Re. your Mosley antenna;

My guess is that you've got a Moseley SWV-7. It is a tapered aluminum antenna aprox. 12 - 15 feet long, with a black phenolic tube about 12" - 18" from the tip, measuring about 2 feet long.

If this is what you've got, I can supply you with a xerox of the manual.

I've been using one of these critters for about 4 years now, and I'm quite happy with it's performance.

It is intended for use on the International Broadcast bands from 49 to 13 metres (i.e., 5.8 - 26 MHz).

The beast is meant to be used with tuned radials if you roof mount it. If you ground mount on a grounded stake, the radials become optional.

A couple of cautionary notes on the antenna:

DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, USE THIS THING FOR TRANSMITTING! The traps in that phenolic tube will blow, and that ain't good! Besides, the VSWR will be sky high in the ham bands anyway, so what's the point?

If you're in an area of the country that's subject to freezing temperatures, be aware that the trap tube isn't waterproofed very well. I had some freezing

damage which caused a crack in the tube. The cure is to use 1.5" heat shrink tubing over the tube, slightly longer than the phenolic. The heat shrink will tend to lap over the ends; coat this area with bathtub caulking compound to get a good seal. Come to think of it, I'd go this route even if the antenna ISN'T subjected to subzero temperatures!

Mr. T., K9TA

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 14:56:41 1994
From: Buddy Brannan <davros@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu>
Subject: National NCX3?

Howdy.

A National NCX3 has come into my possession lately (like today). I haven't a manual for it. First question: Has anyone a manual that they might be willing to photocopy for me? Or anyone know where I can get one? So far, the receiver works...I can't figure the thing out though...for one thing, having the mode switch in the off position doesn't seem to turn the power off. Also need to be able to make sure everything's OK with transmitter, etc. etc. ... but that shouldn't be too hard, I don't guess... Anyway the price was right. :) Oh, and of course, any info on this radio would be much appreciated.

--

Buddy Brannan, KB5ELV	This is the song that doesn't end.
3508 S. First St. #208	Yes, it goes on and on, my friend.
Austin, TX 78704	Some people started singing it,
(512)441-3246	Not knowing what it was,
Internet: davros@bga.com	And they'll continue singing it forever,
davros@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu	Just because... [Repeat]

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 9 11:13:14 1994
From: "Jack Mor" <usr8563a@TSO.UC.EDU>
Subject: Need to transfer wire recording to tape

Folks,

With all this talk about old tape recorders, I found this request on the Net.

Can it be that one of you old timers (older than myself) can help Anita with her family album recording.

Jack.

Anita L. Miller <amiller@ADMIN.ALLEG.EDU> writes:

I am trying to find out where I could have a wire recording transferred to audio cassette. Can anyone help? My parents' wedding was recorded on

a wire recorder, which I am told was once made (or distributed by) Sears.

I have contacted Sears, radio station personnel, and several audio people, but no-one has been able to help--in fact, most people have never even heard of wire recorders. I would be thankful for any leads.

I have been making a video tape of family photos, etc., and I am trying to use old family recordings for the audio portion of the tape, instead of a sound-track.

Please reply to me directly, not to the list.
amiller@admin.alleg.edu

Thanks!

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 15:42:16 1994
From: Chris_Terwilliger-A229AA@email3.sps.mot.com
Subject: need- army TM phone number

	Subject:	Time:09:15
OFFICE MEMO	need: army TM phone number	Date:08/8/94

Looking for the phone number to order TM's. I had it, but lost it.
tnx
Chris
AA7WD
a229aa@email.sps.mot.com

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 22:50:01 1994
From: Bill Robie <robie@umbc.edu>
Subject: Newsgroup Proposal - Please Help

Hi, Folks, I will need a little help from each of you in a couple of weeks.

I just got the first step accepted for starting a new internet newsgroup that will cater to those interested in antique and classic standard-broadcast radios and early phonographs (and all the related disks, cylineders, tapes, wires, etc., etc.). In about three more weeks this proposal will come up for a vote, and I would GREATLY appreciate it if you would help us get this thing passed. As you will see in the attached text of the original proposal, this is not intended to detract from boatanchors folks in any way, but we know that lots of you will want to participate in BOTH groups.

If you are willing to support this, please drop me a brief note to:
robie@umbc7.umbc.edu

I am compiling a list of supporters, and I'll make sure that you know when the official call for votes has been posted and how to vote this group into existence. Please be a Founding Father (or Mother ... or Mutha) of a new firebottle newsgroup and help us get rec.antiques.radio+phono into existence.

Many, many, thanks!

Bill Robie

Copy of original RFD follows:

RFD REC.ANTIQUES.RADIO+PHONO

Name: rec.antiques.radio+phono (unmoderated)

Charter: Discussion of the use, repair, and collecting of early standard-broadcast radios; phonographs; and any other similarly-related items designed for home entertainment sound receiving or sound reproduction.

Proposed Discussion Period: The 21 days following official acceptance of this proposal by the moderator of news.announce.newgroups

Scope: This group is intended to be a forum for those with an interest in sound-receiving and sound-reproduction equipment that was generally manufactured prior to the widespread use of transistors. The group's discussion, however, will not be strictly limited to vacuum-tube and mechanical devices, and those with an interest in early transistor radios, early televisions, and other such items that reflect pioneering audio technology will be welcomed.

Exclusions:

Amateur radio equipment discussion will be directed to the existing amateur radio newsgroups and to the boatanchors list. This is only done because those groups present an established forum for people with an interest in classic amateur radio equipment. Those classic amateur radio collectors who also share an interest in early standard-broadcast equipment will fully appreciate the desire to separate the two interests. Their valuable expertise will, however, be most welcome in all forums.

Rationale:

Hierarchy - This group is proposed as a sub-group of rec.antiques because much of the equipment in question shares the common feature of being designed as home furnishing and/or decoration. For this reason, there is a close affiliation between those with an interest in early home-use sound reproduction equipment and others with interests in antique furniture restoration, appreciation for decorative style of various historic eras, and the historic importance of original sound recordings and broadcasts. Furthermore, the discussion of "classic" *amateur* radio often involves terminology and subject matter that is outside the vocabulary and interest of many antique radio and phono collectors.

While there is certainly some obvious technical common ground, there is clearly good cause for two separate groups to exist and for them to be separated under different hierarchies.

Newsgroup Name - The choice of rec.antiques.radio+phono was made to reflect the interests of the group of enthusiasts (mostly contributors to rec.antiques) who began discussing the formation of a new newsgroup more than a year ago. It was the intention of those first interested parties to form a group that distinctly focused on, and clearly identified, an interest in the closely-related development of home-use phonographs (including cylinder players, music boxes, related materials, etc.) and standard-broadcast radios (and related equipment). Any person who feels compelled to propose an alternative name is asked to first consider that the intention of this proposal is to create a group with very specific interests, and not one that is so broad as to include all early technology, electronic equipment, etc.

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 19:48:45 1994

From: "William K. McCoy" <wkm2y@galen.med.virginia.edu>

Subject: nnewbie

Howdy,

How do I subscribe to boatanchors?

--

73 !

de Bill KE4JSU wkm2y@virginia.edu

**** If your only tool is a hammer, ****
**** you tend to view all problems as nails. ****

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 21:16:42 1994
From: "Roy Morgan" <morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: Novice Station Reconstruction WANTED

REPY TO ORIGINAL POSTER.

----- Forwarded message begins here -----
>From: Lee Laird <ab5sm@netcom.com>
Mon, 25 Jul 1994 18:17:26 GMT
Newsgroups: rec.radio.swap
Subject: wanted

looking for the following items to reconstruct my novice station
from the '60s ..

Globe Chief Deluxe
S-38c

lee - ab5sm

--

lee - ab5sm	Ham Distribution Net	ab5sm@netcom.com
	P.O. Box 50003	ab5sm@uscourts.gov
	Dallas, Tx 75250-0003	

Ham Distribution Net BBS - (214) 226-1181 - Login: Guest;guest

--

----- Forwarded message ends here -----

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 17:58:18 1994

From: Hugh D. Stegman <driver8@red-eft.la.ca.us>
Subject: Re: Novitiate

Kalman writes:

>you had to upgrade or die.

Exactly. The Novice was intended as a cheap entree to amateur radio, and a chance to get code speed up. The callsigns had an N in them, and the thing was first one year and then two years, nonrenewable. It was an incentive for kids to get started with \$100 kit stations and wire dipole antennas. There was at least one summer camp that took kids through the General code and theory in the afternoon. (In the mornings they did the usual sports and poison ivy...)

I would imagine that it was really computers and cheap HTs that did in this sort of license... the Boy Scout/Tom Swift model of ham radio with little stations in the basement on a few CW bands just didn't make it any more.

The Tech was apparently intended for people who wanted to experiment with VHF and UHF. It was started in an era when repeaters were AM and mobiles were either "Benton Harbor Lunch Boxes" or "Gooney Birds" on 6 or 2 AM. The real advanced guys had FM MOTRACS or such in their trunks, and heavy-duty alternators, so it looked like a cop car. It was less an alternate entree into amateur radio and more a way to get these upper bands populated. Techs were kind of considered the lunatic fringe.

Some of this type of ham radio was still around when I got in, despite there already being 2 meter HTs with touch tone pads, though these were pretty new. It all seemed kind of mysterious, like the Masons, definitely for people who had learned some kind of arcane rites.

There were a lot of RACES stations with yellow tube radios with "CD" on them. Whew.

Hugh NV6H

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 17:26:05 1994
From: KANAM%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.abbott.com
Subject: One more test

>From: Kana, Michael (D9CY)
Date: Wed, Aug 3, 1994 10:15 AM
Subject: One more test
To: boatanchors
Hi

Pardon the bw but one more test on the #!*&^\$%# mailer

73's de AA9IL

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 10:52:54 1994
From: dennis@irissun2.fp.trw.com (Dennis Gibbs)
Subject: Parts wanted

Greetings all,

As you may already know from a previous posting, I bought a Collins R-391 receiver this weekend at the Berryville, VA hamfest. I need the following items if anyone has them:

- 1) The power cord. This is the same power cord that fits the R390 (not 'A') and the R-389 receiver. It has a connector that screws into the back panel. Currently, I have no cord, and do not relish the idea of using alligator clips to connect AC power!
- 2) I need any documentation you may have, especially the tech manual. Originals preferred, but copies are OK also.
- 3) I'd like to correspond with anyone else out there who has an R-391 - just want to swap notes and ideas. Does anyone out there also have an R-391?

If you can help with any of the above items, please contact me. Of course, I'll pay anything within reason for the manuals and power cord.

Regards,

Dennis Gibbs
dennis@irissun2.fp.trw.com

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 22:31:37 1994
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: Period modifications

I came across something interesting in a recently acquired pile of early '70s _ham radio_ magazines - a modification to an HW-16 to permit VFO transceive operation, using the receiver VFO for

transmitting. No need to haul around an HG-10 or pile of crystals...

I must admit to being highly tempted, and rationalise it all to myself that this is a period modification, and that the resulting radio is thus still authentic.

Any thoughts from the list on this? Anybody done this?

I'd post a report on the RAC convention last weekend, but the Flea Market was almost a complete loss as far as BoatAnchors were concerned...

73 from Burnaby,
laura VE7LDH

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 9 01:07:06 1994
From: Fire Bottle archive handler <firebotl@jackatak.raider.net>
Subject: Period modifications

Hey Gang-

My gateway has been down for a week, and I am pretty behind the times. I'll be answering as best I can as I get the chance.

More important, to me, anyway, was responding to Laura's question about modifications to boat anchors...

> I must admit to being highly tempted, and rationalise it all to
> myself that this is a period modification, and that the resulting
> radio is thus still authentic.

Interesting twist you bring up, young lady. I have been amused as the list has grown (in age, not size you sillies! ;^) to note the concern about doing anything to an old rig that might make it less than totally "authentic"

You all have reminded me of the man who approached a local museum with an authentic antique axe: it had had three heads and seven or eight handles, but it was still authentic and a real antique.... NOT!

If someone is really gonna be sticky, even swapping condensers ought to be verboten... it isn't but you catch my drift, I am sure.

In Laura's case, I believe she intends to use the radio, on the air, for <gasp> hamming! Why NOT modify it to be even better than in the original box of parts with the wonderous assembly guide? That the mod is "period" makes it feel better, but I think we need to get back to being real and separate the collections of valued antiques from the

collection and operation of vintage radios...

If your question was seeking approval, Laura, shame on you for worrying about it... enjoy the radio as *YOU* want, and don't let a few people on the list discourage you from pursuing your own marvelous expression of the hobby.

> Any thoughts from the list on this? Anybody done this?
Who was it on the list who told *ME* to get a life? Sheesh! ;^)
73,
Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657 -- all from the mobile! ;^)

Fire Bottle Server (Boat Anchors Get Out and Keep You Warm!)
firebot1@jackatak.raider.net
Where Old Radios and Fun ... GO TOGETHER!
+-----human interface: root@jackatak.raider.net -----+

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 13:13:43 1994
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Subject: Re: Period modifications

>
>I came across something interesting in a recently acquired pile
>of early '70s _ham radio_ magazines - a modification to an HW-16
>to permit VFO transceive operation, using the receiver VFO for
>transmitting. No need to haul around an HG-10 or pile of
>crystals...
>
>I must admit to being highly tempted, and rationalise it all to
>myself that this is a period modification, and that the resulting
>radio is thus still authentic.
>
>73 from Burnaby,
>laura VE7LDH
>

My first rig as a novice was the HW-16. I used a chirpy VF-1 VFO, though, instead of the more modern HG-10B VFO. I guess I was into boatanchors even when rigs WERE boatanchors :).

Anyway, this is the first time I have heard of anyone doing such a modification. However, in those days, I OFTEN wished that the rig could transceive from the receiver dial setting alone, just like the SSB xcvs could. The HW-16 was, and is, such a fantastic little CW rig. If it would have had a built-in xmit VFO, I doubt that I would have ever sold it, to acquire my SB-100. The dial drive is simple, and the dial is only calibrated every 5 KHz, and has no xtal cal, or dial adjustment.

Yet it is a very smooth receiver to use, and the fixed 400 Hz crystal filter is very nice.

Since I am so fond of this rig, I am not sure whether or not I would want to modify one today, so as to alter it's authenticity. I knew a LOT of people with this rig, and I never heard of anyone performing such a mod on it. So if collectability is what you are after, I do not think that the mod is a good idea.

HOWEVER - if operating this sweet little rig is what you are after, and you can do a GREAT job on the mod (i.e., you don't end up butchering the rig), I can't think of a nicer rig for 80/40/15 CW. The rig could really use a XTAL cal, and a way to adj. the dial, but I can't see how one could do this w/o drilling holes in the panel. Leave the panel alone. It's pretty.

My 2 cents.

73,
Kalman WD6CZI

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 14:35:56 1994
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Subject: Re: Period modifications

>
>I came across something interesting in a recently acquired pile
>of early '70s _ham radio_ magazines - a modification to an HW-16
>to permit VF0 transceive operation, using the receiver VF0 for
>transmitting. No need to haul around an HG-10 or pile of
>crystals...
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My 2 cents.

73,
Kalman WD6CZI

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 15:26:41 1994
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Subject: Re: Period modifications

>
>I came across something interesting in a recently acquired pile
>of early '70s _ham radio_ magazines - a modification to an HW-16
>to permit VFO transceive operation, using the receiver VFO for
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My 2 cents.

73,
Kalman WD6CZI

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 16:27:54 1994
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Subject: Re: Period modifications

>
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>of early '70s _ham radio_ magazines - a modification to an HW-16
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My 2 cents.

73,
Kalman WD6CZI

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 23:34:16 1994
From: wier@merlin.etsu.edu (Bob Wier)
Subject: Re: Period modifications

>could. The HW-16 was, and is, such a fantastic little CW rig. If it
>would have had a built-in xmit VFO, I doubt that I would have ever sold
>it, to acquire my SB-100. The dial drive is simple, and the dial is
>only calibrated every 5 KHz, and has no xtal cal, or dial adjustment.
>Yet it is a very smooth receiver to use, and the fixed 400 Hz crystal
>filter is very nice.
>

I built my HW 16 circa 1970 or so. I think it probably didn't have a VFO since novices at the time were limited to crystal control. When I upgraded to general I got one (HG10B I think - although I didn't build that...must have found one used somewhere). I remember how incredibly neat it was to ACTUALLY CHANGE FREQUENCIES! Back in those days, you had to upgrade within a year - the Novice was non-renewable.

After I got the General, I retuned the receiver so it covered the upper part of the Novice CW band and the lower part of the phone band - that was neat too. I could hear people *talking* :-)

===== Round Up the Usual Disclaimers! =====

Bob Wier, keeper of the Adobe Photoshop, Icom
radio (WB5KXH), and Motorola HC11 mailing lists
wier@merlin.etsu.edu

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 12:58:58 1994
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Subject: Re: Period modifications

Bob Wier <wier@merlin.etsu.edu> wrote :

>I built my HW 16 circa 1970 or so. I think it probably didn't have a VFO
>since novices at the time were limited to crystal control. When I upgraded
>to general I got one (HG10B I think - although I didn't build that...must
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>

>After I got the General, I retuned the receiver so it covered the
>upper part of the Novice CW band and the lower part of the phone
>band - that was neat too. I could hear people *talking* :-)

Yes, it was definitely not an omission on Heath's part that the HW-16 was not designed to transmit using the internal VFO, due to the fact that Novices used to be restricted to xtal control only. And yes, I too remember how neat it was to be able to actually move up and down at will, to find an open spot to call, or return a call that was not near the few rocks that I had.

When I was a Novice, it was good for 2 years. And then, you had to upgrade or die. Or get a Tech. :)

I often heard SSB on the top end of the 40m band that the HW-16 could tune, but the 400 Hz filter was too narrow to copy phone intelligibly. Or maybe, there was nothing intelligible TO copy on SSB phone (GIGO). Either way, this was not a phone rig.

Some things never change. :)

73,
Kalman Laudon WD6CZI

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 9 12:08:24 1994
From: "Kevin Anderson" <GGANDERSON@Augustana.edu>
Subject: Period Modifications Redux

Thinking about Laura's request, Bob Key's discussion of the virtues of quality regen receivers, and Firebottle's point, one could take this view (for discussion):

One of our continual threads of thought, in addition to our honor and aura of tube equipment from previous eras of radio, is the argument that equipment of old is many times better than today's appliance ricebox equipment.

What better way to show it than with period modifications, done with hollow state (or at least non-solid state) parts, that allows a rig of old to compete in todays world? As Jack would say -- Go for it Laura.

Awaiting discussion from the museum collectors (grin)...

73 de (duh?) Kevin, kb9iua

Kevin L. Anderson, Geography Dept., Augustana College
Rock Island, Illinois 61201 USA phone: (309) 794-7325
e-mail: gganderson@augustana.edu or kla@helios.augustana.edu

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 00:41:09 1994
From: "Menachem Galatz DC" <mgalatz@panix.com>
Subject: R390A ailing

(This might be a repost, my system provider was down yesterday)

Hello Gentlemen,

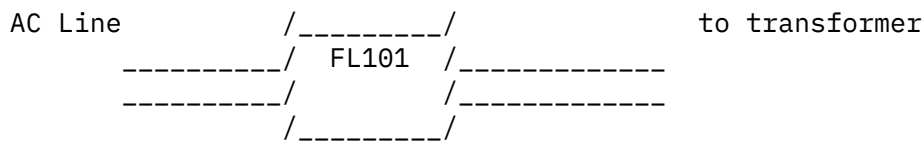
I have been enjoying my R390A, which has been performing awesomely. I scavenged a 600/8 ohm transformer from a military speaker and hooked it up to an Advent speaker. When you turn off the lights and you see the purple glow from the voltage regular tubes, and you hear that exotic middle eastern music filling the air.....well, you know what I mean.

However, when I first got it, the chassis (ground) to line resistance was

infinite on my VOM. Now, after a month of use, the resistance has been slowly creeping away from infinite, when I test resistance between the line plug and the ground.

- 1) Does this mean that the FL101 line bypass/cap module is slowly dying?
- 2) Is the slow demise of the FL101 mean that voltage is slowly and increasingly spilling onto the chassis?
- 3) Is there a failure anywhere besides the FL101 that could be causing this problem?

Frankly, when I tested it a few minutes ago, and I saw that that the needle has moved away from infinite, I have been a little "chicken" to turn it on.



Tell me if I'm wrong, but I think its time to remove the line bypass/caps. Do I just cut the 4 wires, take out the FL101 module and splice the 2 wires from the line cord to the 2 wires going to the trans? Does it matter which side of the line cord goes to the which side of the trans? Is there anything else I need to do? The ground wire from the plug is bolted to the exterior of the chassis where the FL101 is screwed into the back. Of course I would keep the ground wire bolted there.

Again, is there anything else besides the FL101 that would cause this leakage onto the chassis? Will removal of the FL101 degrade performance?

Thanks in advance for all of the great advice. This is a great list. Feel free to ask me anything about back pain, etc. I would be glad to help.

Menachem

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 04:59:07 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmidsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Re: Re: FM B'CAST Monitoring

Well, this is the boatanchors list, so hopefully someone will tell us if some of the Nems-Clarke telemetry receivers would do the job.

I saw one at a hamfest last March that covered the VHF range.
It was a tube radio and was rather cheap (about \$20 but I don't
remember exactly).

They usually have a couple of different bandwidths; maybe
20kc and 300kc or something like that. If the local stations
are one channel away (200kc) you may have a problem.

Off hand, I can't remember if the one I saw had a squelch.

Gary

I am using one of these to listen to FM broadcasting (you know, the "tube"
sound). It does have the adjustable squelch and it does have the adjustable
bandwidth, 3, 10, 30, 300Kc or something similar. However, those are very
simple RC filters ahead of the audio amp and do not provide any real
selectivity. Otherwise the radio is excellent. I have a second Nems-Clarke
which does not have squelch, bandwidth selector or AM and doesn't look
nearly as good, so make sure to check if you're buying one long-distance.

I didn't know it was a telemetry receiver, although I noticed the Video
output. If you have any info about those receivers I would be very
interested.

George

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 05:30:15 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmidsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Re: Re: Idea for new thread: The WORST boatanchor deal...

>
>How about this for a new thread: What is the WORST boatanchor
>purchase you've ever made?
>.....>
>So let's hear some more war stories! What's the worst
>deal(s) you have made regarding boatanchors?
>
>
>Dennis
>

Standby! I MAY have one(bad,bad deal) working even as we speak!!!!
Dan -- WA0JRD.....

I just beat you to it! Only yesterday I paid \$600+ for a ART-13. \$200 was
Fair's price and \$400+ shipping, customs, etc, etc. This is a \$50 to \$100

radio if bought from a flee market as it normally happens. Of course I knew about it when I ordered it, but it still hurts.

George SV0KA

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 10:59:12 1994
From: "Roy Morgan" <morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
Subject: Re: Re: Idea for new thread: The WORST boatanchor deal...

On Wed, 3 Aug 1994 10:31:53 +0200,
PMD G.SIFAKIS <pmidsif@isoft.intranet.gr> wrote:

>I just beat you to it! Only yesterday I paid \$600+ for a ART-13. \$200 was
>Fair's price and \$400+ shipping, customs, etc, etc.

George didn't mention that the shipping was to GREECE!

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 12:51:47 1994
From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry CONTRACTOR Keith Mr.)
Subject: Re: Re: Idea for new thread: The WORST boatanchor deal...

In your message of 3 Aug 1994 at 0507 EDT, you write:

>
> I just beat you to it! Only yesterday I paid \$600+ for a ART-13. \$200 was
> Fair's price and \$400+ shipping, customs, etc, etc. This is a \$50 to \$100

\$400 Shipping! Does the ART-13 get it's own seat on the airplane?

If you are willing to tell us, I would like to hear the details on the shipping transaction..

73,

Larry, KQ4BY

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 15:11:17 1994
From: HAK1%IC%DCPP@bangate.pge.com

Subject: re:FM B'CAST

As further information for the FM b'cast monitoring project I will explain.

As far as I know none of the commercial FM tuners will allow you to adjust the squelch to bring it down to just about the noise level. The receiver will be used to track meteor trails and reflective layers in the ionosphere by watching the locally empty FM channels for bursts of signals. At home I have left my FM tuner on one of these empty channels and periodically heard bursts of signals and periods of up to a couple of minutes where a far away FM b'cast station comes through. I don't enjoy listening to long periods of the FM hiss but if I use the mute control (non adjustable) I miss a lot of the signals. With a VOX controlled recorder and a triggered clock going into the recorder I can leave the setup running unattended and then review the tape at my leisure. My thoughts were that there may be some communication receivers out there and not scanners or entertainment tuners. Maybe some surveillance receiver would fill the requirement. I have checked the PRO-2006, AOR-2500, and Yupiteru MVT-8000 and all of the scanners that cover the FM b'cast band do not have sufficient adjacent channel selectivity. I have yet to investigate the high end FM tuners but my intention is not hi fi listening. Does anyone know if the Carver/NAD/Denon/Yamaha tuners have an adjustable mute or squelch control? My high end Kenwood tuner has the squelch generated inside an IC and is not adjustable (from the schematic).

Howard

hak1@pge.com

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 02:58:42 1994

From: Fire Bottle archive handler <firebot1@jackatak.raider.net>

Subject: re:FM B'CAST

Howard.....

> As further information for the FM b'cast monitoring project I will explain. But, you have overlooked the potentially best solution: use a BOATANCHOR...

The venerable SX-62A has all manner of knobs and dials to twist and turn, have better adjacent channel rejection and selectivity than most, and heats the hacienda in the winter!

Just don't try a Sangean or Sony! ;^) ;^)

73,

Jack, W4PPT/Mobile (75M SSB 2-letter WAS #1657 -- all from the mobile! ;^)

Fire Bottle Server (Boat Anchors Get Out and Keep You Warm!)

firebotl@jackatak.raider.net

Where Old Radios and Fun ... GO TOGETHER!

+-----human interface: root@jackatak.raider.net -----+

From ab4el.com Sat Aug 6 02:56:04 1994

From: CHRIS _ PRUSSING <RMCP@tundra.alaska.edu>

Subject: Re:Wrinkle Paint/Hog Heaven

Hi George and Black Iron Fans-

I have been told that Harley Davidson dealers have an excellent black wrinkle which can be used on your 74 or HRO cases. Look under MC in Yellow pages and ask the parts persons until you find a shop with the gop. Keep in mind that not all of what folks call 'wrinkle' is..... wrinkle. Many Hammarlund and Hallicrafters, etc. are better done in Sandcast finish...available at most auto parts places.

Jim Dillon RMCP@Tundra.Alaska.Edu

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 14:23:22 1994

From: Scott_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com

Subject: RE>Re- Calibration

Reply to: RE>Re: Calibration

I really don't think the inherent accuracy of the 410C is such that you would need to use a standard cell. I might suggest a precision zener instead.

Date: 8/4/94 9:00 PM

To: Scott Johnson

>From: dmcintyr@acs.ucalgary.ca@azbcs

Chuck:

I check my meters against an Weston Standard Cell (1.018 volts if my memory is correct). They are used by electrochemists etc to calibrate the DC voltmeters (actually slide-wire potentiometers) that they use to measure low (<2 volts) with high accuracy. Check with the chemistry department of your local university.

As far as accurate calibration of AC/RF voltmeters- your guess as as good as mine.

Cheers, Deane VE6BP0

dmcintyr@acs.ucalgary.ca

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 04:24:13 1994
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Shipping Horror Stories

to: boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu

Hello Troops.

Six hundred bucks for an ART-13 definitely IS a bit much.

On the other end of the scale tho, there ARE some very good deals to be had out there.

A buddy and I recently ordered two T-195/GRC-19 transmitters from Canada. These pigs weigh in at about 120 pounds each, and prices from American distributors (when you can find 'em) are somewhat ridiculous; \$250 bucks and up. By buying from a firm in Toronto, we managed to get 'em for about \$130 each, including duty + customs broker's fee, and shipped AIR FREIGHT, no less!

I don't understand air freight rates; had this stuff been shipped from another city in the U.S. the cost would have been sky high, but coming across the Canadian border must have negated the ICC tariffs or something. Anybody know just what gives here?

Mr. T., K9TA

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 04:45:39 1994
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Shipping Horror Stories

to: boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu

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ther city in the U.S. the cost would have been sky high, but coming across the Canadian border must have negated the ICC tariffs or something. Anybody know just what gives here?

Mr. T., K9TA

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 10:17:48 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmdsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Re: Shipping Horror Stories

Tom writes:

Six hundred bucks for an ART-13 definitely IS a bit much.

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This is an interesting point. US military gear is all-over the world, but BA-enthusiasts are mainly concentrated in US and Japan. There are some excellent collectors and restorers all over if I can judge from Greece, but are few of them. As a result, I bought an excellent R-388 in a flee market for \$20, a BC-312 from a dealer for \$40 and the same dealer has a bunch of R-388s for about \$80, plus a bunch of other stuff in similar prices (no ART-13s though). The lesson of the story is that when you visit other countries take some time to visit the "junk" areas downtown or close to the harbor. It may pay off, plus shipping charges are zero if you carry the goods with you.

George SV0KA

From ab4el.com Tue Aug 2 17:56:05 1994
From: taylor@osl.csc.ncsu.edu (Lauren Taylor)
Subject: subscribe

subscribe

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 10:48:59 1994
From: "SLRC1::M405142" <M405142%SLRC1.decnet@mdcgwy.mdc.com>
Subject: Subscribe

Please enter my internet address into the distribution list... THX.

I have many anchors, from BC-454's to a Kenwood TS-511S...

-Thanks, 73

Matt Kastiar
Matt Kastigar
N0XEU

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 17:01:24 1994
From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry CONTRACTOR Keith Mr.)
Subject: Re: Sweep tube cost.

In your message of 3 Aug 1994 at 2156 EDT, you write:

>
> Several people write on the lower cost of TV sweep tubes vs. 6146s. Must have
> been at the time. Now I find new 6146s in stores for 20 or 25 bucks, while
> the sweep tubes are more like 25 to 30 when you can get 'em, and a lot of these
> rigs take three. Then you have to reneutralize. Ouch.

Which triggers the thought of redoing all my Drakes to accept 6146's
in lieu of the current complement of 6JB6's...

Anyone have a junker to experiment on?

That's what I need to look for, at this weekend's hamfest..

73,

Larry, KQ4BY

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 20:07:54 1994
From: Hugh D. Stegman <driver8@red-eft.la.ca.us>
Subject: Re: Sweep tube replacement.

>Which triggers the thought of redoing all my Drakes to accept 6146's [...]

This would be a hell of a job. You'd probably wind up building a sub-chassis
for them, and there'd be a lot of circuit changes to make in a pretty
complicated rig already.

I'm not enough of a RF engineer to go into anything more detailed.

Hugh NV6H

"That blue arc down the street? Oh, the local CB guy is transmitting..."

From ab4el.com Thu Aug 4 04:57:34 1994
From: halwaite@netcom.com (Hal R. Waite)
Subject: Sweep Tubes

Does anyone have a listing of substitution equivalents for sweep tubes used in older transmitters and lower power linears? My tube data is limited for the final years of production for these tubes.

I am also looking for the latest rolls or data sheets for the Hickok Model 6000 Tube Tester.

Thanks Hal K4GFI/7

From ab4el.com Fri Aug 5 13:21:22 1994
From: KANAM%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.abbott.com
Subject: Testing

>From: Kana, Michael (D9CY)
Date: Tue, Aug 2, 1994 11:09 AM
Subject: Testing
To: boatanchors
Howdy All

Sorry about the wasted bw. Just a test to see if Im back online.

Mike AA9IL

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 14:01:04 1994
From: "Jack Mor" <usr8563a@TSO.UC.EDU>
Subject: TV interference on the 19m

I purchased a new RCA 25" color TV, the set is RCA model F25652BL manufactured July 1994. This set is generating very large amount of interference on the 19m bend, between 14.700 and 15.800. The TV set is located in the room that is right under my long wire antenna, the antenna is in the attic, and this interference kills any chances of DX'ing any week signals in the 19m bend.

My questions are:

1. Is it normal for state of the art TV set to generate a large amount

of RF interference; is this set defective and needs to go back.

2. If it is normal, can I eliminate this interference by adding shielding or traps, where in the set can I install them and will RCA supply any information and the equipment to eliminate this noise.

Any information will be very helpful.

Thanks, Jack Mor
jackmor@tso.uc.edu

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 19:17:08 1994
From: al511@freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU (Robert Neece)
Subject: Re: TV interference on the 19m

Relative to his new TV set, Jack Mor asks:

>This set is generating very large amount
>of interference on the 19m bend, between 14.700 and 15.800.
>
>1. Is it normal for state of the art TV set to generate a large amount
>of RF interference; is this set defective and needs to go back.

It seems to be a common malady, Jack.

>2. If it is normal, can I eliminate this interference by adding shielding or
>traps, where in the set can I install them

You need to perform an experiment.

First, observe the amplitude of
the interference on 19m with the TV antenna (or cable) connected
to the TV set. Next, disconnect the antenna from the TV set.
If the amplitude of the interference diminishes when you
disconnect the antenna, I may have a solution for you.

Try installing a Radio Shack hi-pass filter at the point where
the antenna attaches to the TV set. The hi-pass filter, of course,
is designed to prevent HF signals from reaching the TV set's
front-end circuitry. But, the hi-pass filter *also* works in
the other direction, that is, it works to attenuate
the amount of HF energy that the TV set conducts to its antenna!

This technique has helped me to solve "dirty" television
set problems in several circumstances. And, as I recall, the
Radio Shack filter costs something like \$1.99. It is an

amazingly good filter for two bucks.

Good luck!

--

73 de Bob, K0KR

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 17:00:21 1994

From: X90GALBRAIT1@wmich.edu

Subject: Typo!

No that HW-16/HG-10B at the swap was \$90, not \$9000-that would be really funny, eh?

73,

Chris, KA8WFC

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 15:21:41 1994

From: junger@mtn.er.usgs.gov (John Unger)

Subject: unsubscribe

unsubscribe

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 16:39:53 1994

From: "PDP11 Hacker" <ard@siva.bris.ac.uk>

Subject: Valve tape recorder....

Greetings....

I have been given a 1961 (is that old enough for this list :-)) Brenell Mk5M tape recorder - you may remember that I asked if anyone knew anything about it. Anyway, the chap who gave it to me has found the user manual (not too bad), the circuit diagrams (:-)), and a test report. From the latter, the machine looks well worth restoring, which is why I am posting here.

The machine consists of 4 main modules. There's the deck mechanics, PSU/bias oscillator, recoding amplifier, and playback amplifier. They are interconnected by plugs/sockets, except for the fact that the Loudspeaker leads are soldered at both ends (:-()), and the frequency compensation switch for the playback amp is mounted on the same spindle as that for the record amp. The 2 amps are mounted on a common panel anyway, and would be difficult to (mechanically) separate.

Now, the machine has not been turned on for at least 10 years, so I was wondering what the best thing to do was. It has a valve rectifier (EZ80), so I wonder if starting it on a variac could damage said valve by drawing current from it while the cathode was cold. Or is that OK?

What I was going to do was

- a) Dismantle the mechanics, oil the bearings (I'm sure they need it!), and check it all works when I turn it by hand
- b) Unplug the power leads from the amplifiers
- c) Remove the 2 valves (EZ80 rectifier and EL84 bias osc) from the PSU unit.
- d) Power up and check the outputs from the transformer
- e) Plug in all valves except for the rectifier, reconnect Power leads to the amps, and see that the LT side works OK
- f) Remove the power leads again, remove the EL84 oscillator valve, insert rectifier
- g) What now. Should I try and reform the main smoothing cap? Or should I just pray and power on?
- h) Assuming I get this far, check the components in the oscillator circuit, insert the EL84, and get that working
- i) Do the same with the replay amp, leaving the record amp unplugged. Again, should I try and reform the main caps?
- j) Plug in mechanics (needed to get the record amp to power up), and check the mechanics works OK
- k) check components in the record amp, and power it up.

Any comments? I guess I should look for possible breakdown in the coupling capacitors. Should I reform electrolytics? Should I test the valves separately (I have an Avo Mk4 tester). Anything else I should do?

-tony

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 18:58:04 1994
From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)
Subject: Re: Valve tape recorder....

Which reminds me - I've got enough parts of two Akai vacuum tube tape recorders to make one that works, probably. Haven't seen any model numbers. Do some of you with Photofact indices have a handle on this item? Somebody told me it's probably like the Roberts machine, which in turn was a copy (in some sense) of the Ampex 600 series machine.

From ab4e1.com Tue Aug 2 19:36:24 1994
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: Where I can find Hickok test gear manuals.

I am not surprised to discover that Hi Manuals and Sams Photofacts don't have them. Hickok says they neither know nor care. Any clues as to where I might find docs for:

Hickok DMS 3200 Digital System Mainframe
 DP110 DC Plug In
 D310 Current Adaptor

Tucker? Fair? Anybody like that likely to have manuals?

I am too much a technologist and too little a electronics artist to enjoy feeling my way without manuals.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those
Athabasca University : tuques we wear, our heads
Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"
** tech@cs.athabascau.ca ** : - Aurthor Black

From ab4e1.com Wed Aug 3 17:21:06 1994
From: X90GALBRAIT1@wmich.edu
Subject: Worst BA deal...

Good thread...brings back some learning experiences.
When I was a novice, my dad took me to the nearest ham store (anybody know if ol' Don in Hazel Park is still in business?).
Well he should be if he's up to the same thing he used to be...heh, heh.
I bought an HW-16/HG-10B in fair shape (15m rx was really weak, unoriginal knobs, dial assembly, etc..) for \$200!! Next week I saw a mint combo for \$9000 at a swap. A year later I called to see what I could get for it (to upgrade)...Don offered me \$45, I hung up.
Happy BAing!
Chris KA8WFC

From ab4e1.com Mon Aug 8 17:21:51 1994
Subject: Worst boatanchor deals?
From: David Watson <watson@wink.corp.sgi.com>

I'm pleased to say I passed up one of the worst deals I've heard recently.

On the Collins net (14.263, 2000UTC every Sunday) someone advertised a mint 312B-3, which is the S-line extension speaker. As far as I know,

it's not particularly rare. I've certainly seen quite a few around. Anyway, this one was winged emblem, apparently in mint condition with original box and papers. I could always use a spare, so I called him. The asking price was \$225. Can't help asking myself: am I missing something here? I understand the rarity drives the price on the older black-box extension speakers, but this???

-David.

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 22:57:54 1994
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: Worst boatanchor deals?

>>
someone advertised a
mint 312B-3, which is the S-line extension speaker. As far as I know,
it's not particularly rare.
>>

As to how rare it is, I don't really know - but I have been attempting to find one for some time (a year or so) with little success (finally have bought a pair 312B-4s - overkill I guess but they match my 75S-3B and 51S-1). I think those speakers are in demand - and all Collins gear carries a premium.

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD

From ab4el.com Wed Aug 3 14:14:08 1994
From: Gary M Diana <gmd@adm01.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: worth restoring/fixing/using?

Hello all -

I recently "inherited" the following rigs, I'd appreciate any comments about their worth/usability/worthiness. Thanks.

Hammarlund HQ-100
Hammarlund HQ-170 w/speaker
Johnson Viking CD-II
Heathhit DX-60
Heathkit HG-10

All are in good condition, mainly just dusty from being in someone's basement for awhile.

73, Gary N2JGU

From ab4e1.com Wed Aug 3 21:15:12 1994
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: worth restoring/fixing/using?

Of course. Not a dud in the bunch.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS : "...underneath those
Athabasca University : tuques we wear, our heads
Athabasca, Alberta Canada : are naked!"
** tech@cs.athabascau.ca ** : - Aurthor Black

From ab4e1.com Fri Aug 5 09:09:02 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmdsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Wrinkle Paint

Regarding Black Wrinkle Paint used in restoration of military-type BAs, the collective opinion of the group is:

- a) The best to be had is the "H-D Black Wrinkle" type sold at Harley-Davidson dealerships.
- b) AES also has it in 3 colors, about \$4/can.
- c) GC Electronics has it.
- d) Auto Parts stores may have it.

Bottom line, by far the best recommendations are for the Harley one. This should probably make it into the FAQs.

Thanks to everyone who responded to my query. I arranged for someone to bring me a can or two.

George SV0KA

From ab4e1.com Thu Aug 4 09:02:04 1994
From: "PMD G.SIFAKIS" <pmdsif@isoft.intranet.gr>
Subject: Wrinkle Paint, BA

The "BA" in the subject stands for "Bay Area" for a change. So, does any of you BA guys living in BA know of any place there that sells Black Wrinkle Paint in spray cans? A friend of mine who's visiting there could bring me some. Otherwise I'll have to try mail order and wait forever. As an example, I am now entering the third month since I ordered my ER back issues and I still don't have them. Thanks in advance.

George SV0KA

From ab4el.com Mon Aug 8 17:31:40 1994

From: rdkeys@csemail (R. D. Keys)

Subject: Re: Yet another new source of RFI, Philips "IQ" light bulbs

ON the growing problem of RFI.....

This came by from WA2ISE on the rec.radio.amateur misc column:

> Was in a Sears today, and saw a display of Philips "IQ" light bulbs.
> One has a "microchip" timer in its base that will turn the bulb off
> after 1/2 hour. Another has a built in dimmer circuit, and you can
> pulse the power to it to step thru 4 different brightness levels.
> A note "Bulb may cause minor interference to AM radio reception"
> appears below the user instructions. I suppose this might mean that
> I will be able to listen to a 50000 watt AM station a half mile away.

> These things will probably trash some of our HF SSB and or CW bands
> as well.

Also, check your cable TV box.

My cable TV box was giving me fits on 40 meters for a long time, before I finally isolated it to the box. It would cause about 50khz broad rf hash to be emitted from about 6.8mhz to 7.3mhz, wiping out a chunk of the 40 meter band, wherever it happend to be at the time (it moved and was therefore more of a problem to track down). I had the cable folks change out the box and it cured the problem.

Hint: Try unplugging your cable tv box(s) and see if any background hash on 40 meters or elsewhere goes away. If it does, complain like hell and get the bloody box replaced.

Good Luck....

Bob